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No open air burning in Whitby: fire services

WHITBY -- With summer in full swing, Whitby fire and emergency services is reminding residents that open air burning is strictly prohibited.

Nicholas Webb, acting deputy chief with Whitby fire, said embers from an outdoor fire can come in contact with objects and structures on adjacent properties, and can ignite other fires or cause damage to property.

"Whitby fire and emergency services responds to frequent complaints of smoke entering neighbouring homes from open air fires during the summer months," he added.

Mr. Webb recommends two alter-

natives to backyard fires. One option is to use a barbecue with an enclosed metal lid to help prevent smoke and embers from leaving the barbecue.

Another option is to use gasfuelled listed appliances as an alternative to having a backyard fire. These listed appliances have the look and feel of a natural fire and can be extinguished by simply closing a valve. The Town of Whitby bylaw does not apply to propane or gas fuelled barbecues, grills, cooking appliances or gas fireplaces approved for outdoor use by the Technical Standards and Technical Safety Authority of Ontario (T.S.S.A.) and listed by ULC or CSA.

For more information on open air burning, contact Whitby fire and emergency services at 905-668-3312.



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