

# **BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **Policy on Open Flames in Exterior Campus Spaces**

### **1. PURPOSE**

As a means of fire prevention, this policy regulates the use of open flames in the exterior spaces of the University.

### **2. APPLICABILITY**

This policy covers all University students, faculty, staff, vendors, contractors, visitors, volunteers, and all other affiliated or nonaffiliated persons.

The policy applies to all lands and other exterior spaces constituting the property owned or operated by Bridgewater State University, in an effort to provide a safe and secure learning and working environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

### **3. POLICY**

Except for those purposes specifically exempted under this policy or otherwise explicitly authorized by the University's chief of police, all open flames are prohibited in the exterior spaces of the University.

### **4. DEFINITIONS**

"Open flames" means torches, bonfires, campfires, cooking fires, candles, or any other open sources of fire.

"Exterior spaces" means the real property of the University, including land, roadways, and parking lots that are owned, leased, used, or operated by the University; but not including academic or administrative buildings or residence halls (which are covered under separately existing university regulations).

### **5. EXCLUSIONS**

Bridgewater State University employees, vendors, or contractors acting within the scope of their official responsibilities are exempted from this policy.

Outdoor cooking conducted in approved University-provided grills in designated University locations with permanent, fixed grills; or in portable grills as allowed by the University's tailgating procedures are exempted from this policy.

Additional exemptions may be granted in writing by the chief of the Bridgewater State University Police Department for educational, cultural, or demonstration purposes; or other reasonable purposes as determined in the sole discretion of the chief of police.

## **8. SANCTIONS**

Violations of the law or of this policy may be grounds for criminal prosecution and referral for University disciplinary action.

## **9. POLICY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS**

Questions or concerns about this policy should be directed to the chief of the Bridgewater State University Police Department (or designee) at 508-531-6140.