West Des Moines Ordinance on Open Burning

The State of Iowa does not allow opening burning within eleven cities in the State of Iowa, to include the City of West Des Moines. Polk County Department of Health does not allow the use of outdoor fireplaces, chimeneas, or fire pits because of air quality standards.

Grills are only allowed when they are used solely for the purpose of non-commercial food preparation. When the food is finished being prepared, the grill shall be extinguished.

Since the City of West Des Moines is located in multiple counties, the Polk County standards apply to all property within City limits. Additional questions can be answered by calling the City of West Des Moines Fire Marshal Mike Whitsell at 222-3420.