

STATE OF LOUISIANA
CITY OF WEST MONROE

ORDINANCE NO. _____

MOTION BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE AMENDMENT OF SECTION 4-2032 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA, RELATING TO AUTHORIZED OUTDOOR BURNINGS, TO INCLUDE CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS FOR MULTI-FAMILY DWELLINGS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FIRE PREVENTION CODE; TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO DECLARE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE AS SEVERABLE; AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in special and legal session convened, that Section 4-2032 of the Code of Ordinances, City of West Monroe, Louisiana, is hereby amended, to provide as follows:

“Sec. 4-2032. – Authorized outdoor burnings.

Except as authorized below, all outdoor fires shall be prohibited, and violations are subject to the penalties provided in Section 11-4006.

- (a) *Recreational outdoor burning.* Recreational outdoor burning shall be allowed only under the following conditions:
- (1) The burning must occur in a metal, clay, brick, stone or similar fire-proof container which is suitable for the size, type and nature of the burning, and where the area containing the burning material does not exceed five (5) feet by five (5) feet in size;
 - (2) The container shall be at least twenty (20) feet away from any structure or other combustible materials;
 - (3) The container must be monitored throughout the duration of the burning;
 - (4) Only dry wood products may be used as fuel.
 - (5) There shall be a water hose attached to a functional water supply located within thirty-five (35) feet of the burning.

The limitations above do not apply to any non-commercial cooking pit, cooker, stove, oven, or similar container, or to any device fueled solely with natural gas, butane, propane, kerosene or similar commercially-provided product, when used by the manufacturer as intended for cooking or heating purposes, nor to any appropriately licensed commercial pit, cooker, stove or oven.

- (b) *Commercial outdoor burning.* Commercial outdoor burning is allowed only at the discretion of the fire department, and shall be based upon the size, nature and type of materials to be burned, the method to be utilized, the location of the site, the proposed hours during which there shall be burning, the weather and conditions existing and such other factors as the fire department shall determine appropriate. All commercial burning shall require a burning permit from the LA. Department of Environmental Quality and from the fire department of the city. The cost of the burning permit from the fire department shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (c) *Nuisance.* Even if otherwise allowed or approved as provided above, no outside burning can be or create a nuisance, such as with the smoke or odor produced, to the surrounding occupants (unless specifically provided in a commercial outdoor burning permit).
- (d) *Restrictions on grills and similar devices in multi-family dwellings.*
Notwithstanding subsection (a) or any other provision of this section, and regardless of any exemption for cooking or fuel-fired devices:

- (1) For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, grill, or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose shall be used or kindled on any balcony, under any overhanging portion, or within ten (10) feet (3 m) of any structure.
- (2) For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, grill, or other similar devices used for cooking shall be stored on a balcony.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in special and legal session convened, that for cause determined to be in the best interests of the City of West Monroe and its citizens, that this ordinance shall be effective on and after the 5th day of May, 2026.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that if any section, paragraph, sentence clause and/or phrase of this Ordinance or the application thereof is declared unconstitutional, unenforceable or invalid by the final Judgment of any Court of competent jurisdiction such unconstitutionality, unenforceability, or invalidity shall not affect the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and/or phrases of this Ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City of West Monroe without the incorporation into this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional, unenforceable or invalid section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase. To that end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

The above Ordinance was read and considered by Sections at a public meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in special and legal session convened, voted on by yea or nay vote, passed and adopted the 4th day of May, 2026, the final vote being as follows:

YEA: _____

NAY: _____

NOT VOTING: _____

ABSENT: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED THIS 4TH DAY OF
MAY, 2026

ANDREA PATE, CITY CLERK
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

STACI ALBRITTON MITCHELL, MAYOR
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA