## FIRE PIT USE AND CARE MANUAL

## **CARING FOR YOUR FIRE PIT**

**Clean Regularly:** All types of fire pits must be cleaned and inspected periodically. The ash produced in wood burning fire pits must be cleaned out regularly. Never allow ash to accumulate.

Clean Safely: Make sure the fire has completely died down before you remove the ashes.

**Avoid Accelerants:** Never use accelerants or combustible materials to start a fire. This is dangerous, and can be damaging to your fire pit as well.

**Avoid Plastic:** Never use any plastic materials in or nearby a fire pit. It is very difficult to remove the residue later, and the burning of this residue can cause emission of toxic fumes.

**Use a Safe Surface:** Always place a portable fire pit on a solid, stable surface. Do not use portable fire pits on a wood deck or other combustible surfaces like dry grass, leaves, mulch, etc. Do not use portable fire pits near combustible structures such as vinyl or wood siding. Take care to never drop your fire pit, as any breakage could cause serious damage and costly repairs.

**Cover and Store:** If you do not plan to use your fire pit for an extended period of time, cover and store it in a safe place. This will protect it from the elements and dust buildup. When your outdoor fire pit is not in use, cover it with a fire pit cover until you are ready to use it again.

**Clean after Cooking:** If you use your outdoor fire pit for barbecuing or grilling, make sure you clean up properly afterwards to prevent build-up that may damage your fire pit or attract unwanted pests.

Keep Iron Dry: Iron fire pits must be kept dry as much as possible. Cover your iron fire pit when not in use to prevent rust build-up.

**Extinguish:** Let fires die down gradually, do not use water to put out a fire as this may cause the metal to crack with the sudden drop in temperature.

## **SAFETY FIRST**

- It necessary to have a fire extinguisher close by. A spark could easily fly from the pit onto a piece of flammable material. Without something next to you that will extinguish the fire you may end up with a fire too large to put out yourself.
- Equip your fire pit with metal fire tools that you will use when adjusting your fire. A fire poker and a set of tongs are essential in fire maintenance and control. Spark screens are recommended while the fire is in use to prevent sparks from flying. Fire pit pokers can also be used to safely remove and place your spark screen.
- Do not allow children to get too close to the flames. Hot embers can fly out of the fire pit, especially during windy conditions.