

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS WHEN OPEN BURNING



Watch the weather



Stay informed about possible weather changes. Wind and relative humidity are important weather considerations. Approaching fronts and thunderstorms may change wind directions and generate strong gusts. Outdoor burning should be postponed when winds are high, relative humidity is low, and wind gusts are predicted.

Generally, burning is not allowed on dry, windy days. Even if you have initially received permission, you should stop burning if a strong wind comes up. Winds may not only carry burning embers into surrounding vegetation but also fan the flames making the fire difficult to control.

Mornings are usually a good time to burn because winds are calmer and the relative humidity is higher. Be sure to complete your burning early enough that your smoke will disperse and does not become a hazard.

What may be burned?

1. Materials such as blueberry patches for pruning purposes, dead raspberry stalks, fruit tree prunings, infected beehives for disease control, normally associated with the pursuit of agriculture
2. Brush, and trees resulting from agricultural land clearing
3. Fungus-infected Elmwood if no other acceptable means of disposal is available, (disease free brush is not an acceptable starting aid)
4. Brush, cane, driftwood and forestry debris

How open burning should be conducted:

1. With someone **in attendance** at all times
2. With a **nearby water supply**, such as a pressurized water pump, can or hose 
3. The fire being out before the attendant leaves
4. With shovels, rakes, etc. for purposes of control 
5. With suitable starting procedures or materials such as a pressurized burner with diesel fuel, using small amounts of kerosene, or #2 fuel oil (**no gasoline**), to enhance drying, and removing grass from the areas before placing material in the area of proposed burning
6. With recommended methods of extinguishing the fire such as burning down to coals, spreading with a shovel, rake, extinguishing with snow or water, or covering with sand or soil 
7. All open burning must be conducted during periods of good atmospheric ventilation and without causing a nuisance
8. All burning must be conducted between the Burning shall be conducted under the provisions of 310 CMR 7.07, and under such further regulations and restrictions as set forth by the Forest Warden or the Barnstable Fire Chief.



- ✓ **Burning must be at least 75 ft. from all dwelling units,**
- ✓ **Burning must be carried out between 10:00AM and must be extinguished by 4:00PM,**
- ✓ **Burning must take place on land proximate to the source of material being burned.**



PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING AN OPEN AIR BURNING PERMIT IN THE BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

- ❖ You must obtain a copy of the current years rules and regulations by visiting the Fire Department at 3249 Main Street, in Barnstable Village between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM between January 15th and May 1st.
- ❖ To determine if burning is allowed each day you will need to do one of the following:

- Check our website at www.barnstablefire.org
- Call the Fire Station at 508-362-3312 between the hours of 10:00AM and 1:00PM 
- Check the sign out in front of the station

The following is prohibited:

- ⊘ Burning of brush, trees, cane and driftwood from commercial and/or institutional land clearing operations
- ⊘ grass, hay, leaves, and stumps
- ⊘ tires
- ⊘ burning during adverse meteorological conditions
- ⊘ burning at landfills or refuse disposal facilities other than approved incinerators
- ⊘ stacking, placing or storing combustible material as such that the Department may presume that it will be burned

⊘ REMEMBER ~ BURNING OF LEAVES IS PROHIBITED!