



# REGULATIONS FOR OPEN BURNING

## January 15 through May 1

### The Following Regulations Must Be Followed

1. A permit for all open burning is required from the Fire Department.
2. Permits will only be issued to homeowners, not to businesses.
3. The Fire Department will determine daily if burning will be allowed.
4. When burning is allowed, prior to starting any open burning, you must activate your permit online or by calling 978-768-6363 during the hours of 9 AM and 12 PM.
5. No permits can be activated or fires started after 12 noon.
6. Burning is only allowed between 10am & 4pm
7. ALL FIRES MUST BE EXTINGUISHED BY 4pm
8. Burning must be at least 75 feet from all buildings.
9. The use of accelerants is strictly prohibited.
10. Fire Control Tools and Water Supply Must Be Present
11. The fire must NEVER be left unattended.
12. Burning must take place on land proximate to the source of material being burned.
13. Burning must be conducted without causing hardship or nuisance to others.
14. Under the law you **are allowed** to burn debris from the following: Brush, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris from other than commercial or industrial land clearing operations. Materials normally associated with the pursuit of agriculture such as, fruit tree pruning's, dead raspberry stalks, blueberry patches for pruning purposes, and infected beehives for disease control. Trees and brush resulting from agricultural land clearing. Fungus infected elm wood, if no other acceptable means of disposal is available.
15. **Materials not allowed to be burned by law: Debris from commercial and/or industrial land clearing operations, grass, hay, leaves and stumps, and tires, construction material and debris, or other household items or furniture.**
16. The issuing of a permit does not release the holder from liability for damage caused by their fire.

People conducting illegal burning, or who allow a fire to get out of control, may be held liable for costs of extinguishing a fire, fined, and even imprisoned (MGL c.48 s.13).

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/quality/open-burning-answers-to-your-burning-questions.html> .

The Essex Fire Department may alter, limit, restrict or revoke permits because of drought, equipment problems or apparatus out of service.