



HINCKLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Open Burning, Recreational Fires, and Portable Outdoor Fireplaces

The requirements for open burning in the State of Ohio, are outlined in both the Ohio Fire Code, Section 307(G), as well as the burning regulations published by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

Property owners should be aware that even if they receive permission from the EPA or the Fire Chief to conduct an authorized burn, the Ohio Fire Code states that *"The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation."* (OFC 307.3)

The definition of Agriculture, per the OFC 2017, "Agriculture purposes" include agriculture, farming, dairying, pasturage, apiculture, algaculture, horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, ornamental horticulture, and animal and poultry husbandry." Those properties and structures would fall into the Agricultural Waste Category.

Residential Waste shall comply with the Residential Waste Category and strictly held to wood and paper products only. No materials containing plastic, rubber, grease, asphalt, or petroleum, or other synthetics shall be burned in a fire for waste disposal

Any structure that is defined in the use group definitions including Assembly, Business, Factory, High Hazard, Moderate Hazard, Storage, Miscellaneous shall not be permitted to have open burn, recreational fire or portable outdoor fireplace unless permission is given from the EPA.

The following information should assist residents, property owners, businesses in determining what outside fires are permitted. It is highly suggested that contact be made with the Hinckley Fire Department be called prior to open burn or recreational fire on a property.

Any non-emergent questions can be directed to Assistant Chief Gerbasi at 330-278-8219 or by email ggerbasi@hinckleyfire.us. All emergent issues shall be referred to 911 and the Hinckley Fire Department will be dispatched.

If a permit is required contact the Akron Regional Air Quality Management District at (800)-589-2489. A copy of the regulations can be found at www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.

Cookouts and campfires	The wood stack can be no larger than 2 ft. high by 3 ft. wide. Only clean, seasoned firewood or equivalent can be used. Fires in approved containers must be not less than 15 ft. from a structure. Fires in open areas must be no less than 50 ft. from any structure.
Agricultural Waste	Agricultural wastes and plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and materials from crop or livestock production. This includes fence posts and scrap lumber but does not include building, land clearing waste, dead animals or animal waste. Fires must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited buildings.
Land Clearing Waste	Plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and crop residues. With prior written permission from Ohio EPA. Allow two (2) weeks.
Residential Waste	Plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and crop residues. Also wastes such as wood or paper products that are generated by one, two or three family residences. Fires must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited buildings.
Ceremonial Fires	Wood stack no larger than 5 ft. high x 5 ft. wide. Duration no longer than three (3) hours. Local permit required.
Occupational fires for warmth of outdoor workers	Use clean, seasoned firewood contained in a 55-gallon drum.

“Recreational fire.” An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of 3 feet (914 mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610 mm) or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

“Open burning.” The burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. Open burning does not include road flares, smudge-pots and similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames, recreational fires or use of portable outdoor fireplaces. For the purpose of this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed when, during the time combustion occurs, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.