

# Open Burning

*This handout is for informational purposes only.  
The provisions of the City's adopted codes prevail.*



## **Document Submittal List**

- [Open Burn Permit Application.](#)
- One copy of site plan or Plat of Survey (to scale) showing the specific location of the burn area including dimensions from all existing structures and improvements (fences, decks, etc.) on the property. The location of any extinguishing mechanisms including hoses, buckets, and fire extinguishers should also be included.
- Ecological burns and IEPA fires shall include a copy of the approved IEPA burn permit.

**Failure to provide any of the above documents may result in processing delays.**

## **General Information and Fees**

- A permit is required for bonfires, large landscape waste fires, IEPA fires, and ecological burns. Only recreational fires less than 2' x 2' x 2' in size are permitted without a permit.
- Permit applications must be submitted no less than three days before the open burning is proposed to be conducted.
- There are no fees associated with obtaining an open burning permit.
- All open burning shall comply with the City's adopted [Open Burning Ordinance](#).
- The approved permit must be posted in plain view when open burning beings and must remain posted until the fire is extinguished.
- Alterations to the proposed burn must be resubmitted to the Chief Code Official in writing for review and approval prior to the burn occurring. This includes changes to time, materials, location, etc.

## **Open Burning Prohibited**

- Open burning that involves the use of wood that generates a large volume of smoke shall be extinguished immediately.
- The open burning of household garbage and waste, leaves, grass, automotive materials and debris, and construction debris is specifically prohibited.

## **Open Burning Requirements**

- All fires located in an approved container shall be set back a minimum of 15 feet from all temporary or permanent buildings and/or wooden fences. Approved containers include a manufactured or constructed outdoor fireplace, permanent or portable fire pit, and when all are fitted and operated with a spark arrestor designed to reduce hot embers from being carried in the wind to nearby structures.
- All fires except those in approved containers shall be set back a minimum of 50 feet from all temporary or permanent buildings and/or wooden fences.
- An owner, lessee, or occupant of the property where the fire is occurring who is at least 16 years old must be on site for the duration of the fire providing constant and direct supervision.
- Fires shall not exceed 5' x 5' x 5' unless specifically approved to do so. Permit issuance does not allow fires larger than 5' x 5' x 5'.
- The source of fuel is limited to seasoned dry firewood and/or branches and limbs collected from trees, shrubs, or bushes located on the property where the fire is occurring and is ignited with a small amount of clean paper. The fuel chosen shall minimize the generation and emission of air contaminants.
- No more than one burn/bonfire permit shall be issued per month to the same applicant or for the same location.

## **IEPA Fires**

- IEPA fires must be conducted with the consent of the property owner and under the constant and direct supervision of trained professionals experienced in the fuel types being burned.
- All applicable State of Illinois and City of Warrenville permits shall be obtained prior to conducting an IEPA fire or ecological burn.
- The individual, company, or agency responsible for supervising a permitted IEPA fire or ecological burn shall notify surrounding property owners, the City of Warrenville Community Development Department, and local police and fire departments of the actual day and time of said IEPA fire or ecological burn a minimum of 24 hours in advance of such fire or burn being conducted.