

**BONFIELD TOWNSHIP
VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**



OPEN AIR BURNING

INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD



Burning Bans

At certain times of the year and as conditions warrant, the Fire Chief or the Ministry of Natural Resources may issue a complete ban on open air burning. When a ban is issued **ALL** open air burning is prohibited with the exception of actual cooking that is taking place on a grill.

Fire Station #1 has an answering machine with a message advising if a fire ban has been declared. Please do not leave a message.

Fire Danger Rating signs have been installed at the Township Office Entrance and at Gagné's Esso in Rutherglen

The Township's website will also post "Fire Bans"

Prohibited Materials

The following items are prohibited from burning: "industrial materials, such as tires, oil, grease, paint, cloth, rags, plastics, shingles, dry wall, insulation, painted or treated wood, animal fecal deposits or manure, animal carcasses, domestic waste such as food scraps, cloth, rags, clothing, household plastics and flammable or combustible liquids or accelerants".

Penalties

Persons violating the Ontario Fire Code may be prosecuted under the **Fire Protection and Prevention Act**. Conviction may result in a fine up to \$25,000 dollars for an individual and \$50,000 for a Corporation.

Failure to comply with any provisions of this article may result in having your privileges revoked or being charged under the Ontario Fire Code and/or being charged \$410.00 per hour for each responding vehicle, or all of the above.

In addition, persons who conduct or permit open air burning, in contravention of the Open-Air Burning By-Law, may be subject to fines/penalties as set out in the by-law.

The Ontario Fire Code prohibits all open air burning except for small, confined cooking fires and other fires that have been “approved” by the Chief Fire Official.

What Is Open Air Burning (From April 1st to October 31st)

Any fire set outside (other than on a small, confined grill) while being used to cook food. Campfires, brush/leaves, burn barrels and construction site fires are examples of open air burning. Fires may be started after 7:00 p.m.

The fire cannot be any larger than 4 metres in diameter. You must have a minimum clearance of 15 metres from any structure, hedge, fence, or anything combustible.

You must always stay with the fire until it is completely extinguished, and you must provide a means of extinguishment.

You cannot maintain a fire when the direction of the wind may cause either reduced visibility on a roadway or excessive smoke or an odour that may cause discomfort to persons in the immediate area. The fire must be out by 6:00 a.m.

Before Burning Ensure That

- It does not create a nuisance
- The fire is constantly attended
- A suitable means of extinguishment is available while the fire is burning

Open Air Burnings Are NOT Permitted When:

- Wind exceeds 15 kilometres per hour
- It is rainy or foggy
- A smog day has been declared

Wind speed is posted at

<https://weather.gc.ca/>

Smog alert days are posted at

www.airqualityontario.com

Be a Good Neighbour

While burning, it is your obligation to ensure that smoke does not interfere with the ability of your neighbours to enjoy their properties or conduct their business without disruption. Watch where your smoke travels and do not burn when there are smog alerts, foggy conditions or wind that will carry your smoke in a direction that will disrupt adjacent roadways or properties

Questions or Concerns?

- If you have questions regarding open air burning or,
- If you have concerns about open air burning that is being conducted in contravention of this policy,

Contact:

Fire Chief
Gilles Lebel
705-499-8968

Deputy Chief
Dave Vieira
705-492-7684

Fire Station #1
107 Railway St.
Bonfield ON P0H 1E0
705-776-2257

Fire Station #2
440 Rutherglen Line
Rutherglen ON P0H 2E0

This brochure has been prepared for convenience only. For a complete version of our Open Air Burning By-law, please contact the Bonfield Township Office at 705-776-2641 or visit the Municipal website at www.bonfieldtownship.com



Small Community, Big Heart