

Harwich Fire Department
2012 OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS JAN. 15-MAY 1
\$10.00 Fee and Permit Required

CALL 911 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

WHO MAY BURN:

1. Those who have PERMISSION from the Fire Department or Forest Warden.
2. Those affiliated with an official fire fighting agency who are engaged in training activities or combating or backfiring an existing fire.
3. Those who are open burning primarily for cooking.

WHAT MAY BE BURNED:

1. Material such as blueberry patches for pruning purposes, dead raspberry stalks, fruit pruning, and infested beehives for disease control normally associated with the pursuit of agriculture. **(Agricultural Burning Permit Only)**
2. Brush and trees resulting from agricultural land clearing. **(Agricultural Permit)**
3. Fungus-infected Elm wood if no other acceptable means of disposal is available.
4. Brush, cane, driftwood and forestry debris up to 4 inches in diameter.

CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE MET:

1. Burning must be at least 75 feet from all dwelling units.
2. Burning must be carried out between 10 AM and 4 PM.
3. Burning must take place on land proximate to the source of material being burned.
4. Burning must begin prior to 12 PM.

HOW TO CONDUCT OPEN BURNING:

1. Someone must be in ATTENDENCE at all times.
2. A nearby water supply such as a pressurized water pump, can or hose.
3. Fire must be completely out before the attendant leaves.
4. Shovels, rakes etc. Must be on hand for control purposes.
5. Suitable starting procedures or materials such as a pressurized burner with paper or kindling.

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS MAY NOT BE USED.

6. Cutting brush in advance and/or covering to enhance drying, removing grass from the areas before placing material in the area of burning.
7. Recommended methods of extinguishing the fire, such as burning down to coals, spreading with a shovel or rake, extinguishing with snow or water, covering with sand or soil.
8. During periods of good atmospheric ventilation and without causing a nuisance.

PROHIBITED:

1. Burning of brush, trees, cane and driftwood from a commercial and/or institutional land clearing operations
2. Burning of grass, hay, leaves and stumps.
3. Burning of trees.
4. Burning during adverse meteorological conditions.
5. Burning at landfills or refuse disposal facilities other than approved incinerators.
6. Stacking, placing or storing combustible material such that the Department may presume that it will be burned.

Non-compliance with these regulations is subject to a fine up to \$500 plus the cost of extinguishment or by imprisonment of not more than 1 month or both.(MGL Chap.43 Sec.13)

Thank you for your cooperation.

Captain G. Hal Romme
Fire Prevention Officer