



**Fire Chief**  
Matthew P. Homik

# MONCLOVA TOWNSHIP FIRE/RESCUE

## Fire Prevention Bureau

4395 Albon Road Monclova, Ohio 43542

Office: 419-865-9423

[www.monclovatwp.org](http://www.monclovatwp.org)

### OPEN BURNING RULES, REGULATIONS & PERMITTING

#### WHAT IS OPEN BURNING?

Open burning is the burning of any material products of combustion that are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. For this purpose, 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.

- **Bonfire:** A bonfire is an outdoor fire utilized for ceremonial purposes.
- **Recreational Fire:** An outdoor open fire burning materials other than rubbish, with a fuel area less than 3 feet diameter and 2 feet in height for the purpose of pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purpose.
- **Portable Outdoor Fireplace:** An outdoor solid fueled burning fireplace; may be open in design or may have a small hearth opening and a short chimney.

#### RESTRICTED/UNRESTRICTED AREAS

Ohio's Open Burning regulations distinguish between restricted and unrestricted areas.

A restricted area is the entire area within the boundaries of a municipal corporation as well as within a:

- 1,000-foot boundary around cities with a population of 1,000 to 10,000.
- One-mile boundary around cities with a population of over 10,000.

An unrestricted area is any area outside of the boundaries of a restricted area.

#### OPEN BURNING IN A RESTRICTED AREA

Open burning, with the exception of recreational and occupational fires, is prohibited in a restricted area.

#### OPEN BURNING IN AN UNRESTRICTED AREA

##### A. Allowed Open Burning- Permit Not Required

1. Recreational Fires
2. Heating tar, welding, acetylene torches, highway safety flares, smudge pots, heat for workers and similar occupational needs.

##### B. Allowed Open Burning- Requires Fire Department Permit

1. **Bonfires-** Only dry seasoned firewood ignited with small amount of paper is allowed. The permit application shall include documentation of the event on the sponsoring organization's letterhead.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Fire allowed in restricted areas and by A1, A2, & B above shall not be used for waste disposal purposes and shall be of the minimum size sufficient for their intended purpose. The fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation and emission of air contaminants.



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2. Disposal of residential waste, or agricultural waste generated on premises if following conditions are observed.
  - a. The fire is set when atmospheric conditions will readily dissipate contaminants; and
  - b. The fire does not create a visibility hazard on roadways, railroad tracks, or airfields; and
  - c. The fire is located at a point on the premises most remote from residential or populous areas and at least 1,000 feet from any inhabited building not on said premises (EPA requirement); and
  - d. The wastes are stacked and dried to provide the best practical condition for efficient burning; and
  - e. No materials are burned which contain rubber, grease, asphalt or liquid petroleum products.
- C. Allowed Open Burning- Requires Prior Notification of the Ohio EPA & Fire Department Permit
  1. Prevention or control of disease or pests. The necessity of burning for control must be verified to the EPA by the local health department, cooperative extension agency, Ohio Department of Agriculture or U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- D. Allowed Open Burning- Requires Written Permission from Ohio EPA & Fire Department Permit
  1. Recognized silvicultural, horticultural, range, and wildlife management practices to maintain or increase the quantity or quality of production.
  2. Disposal of ignitable or explosive materials with no practical alternative method of disposal.
  3. Instruction in methods of firefighting or for research in the control of fire.
  4. In emergency or other extraordinary circumstances as determined necessary by the EPA.
  5. Disposal of land clearing wastes other than residential or agricultural wastes if the following conditions are observed:
    - a. The fire is set when atmospheric conditions will readily dissipate contaminants; and
    - b. The fire does not create a visibility hazard on roadways, railroad tracks, or airfields; and
    - c. The fire is located at a point on the premises most remote from residential or populous areas and at least 1,000 feet from any inhabited building not on said premises (EPA requirement); and
    - d. An air curtain destructor or other device or method determined by the EPA to be at least as effective is used to curtail release of air contaminants.



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#### LOCATION FOR OPEN BURNING

The location for any open burning shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure. (O.F.C. 307.4)

##### Exceptions:

1. Fires in approved containers shall be not less than 15 feet from any structure.
2. The minimum distance from a structure shall be 25 feet from a pile size is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height. (Recreational fire)
3. These distances apply only where greater separation distances are not specifically listed and or required by EPA regulations.

#### ATTENDANCE & FIRE CONTROL

Any open burning shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. At least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, two extinguishers with a 2-A rating each, or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

#### PROHIBITED OPEN BURNING

Open burning that is or will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or other circumstances make such fires hazardous are also not permitted. No open burning shall be conducted in an area where an air alert, warning or emergency is in effect. Materials that may not be burned anywhere in Ohio at any time are materials containing rubber, grease, and asphalt or made from petroleum, such as tires, car parts, auto parts, plastics, or plastic-coated wire; garbage (any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking, or consumption of food); and dead animals.

Except for fires in a plowed field, garden or highway that are greater than 200 feet from woodland, brushland, or field containing dry grass or other inflammable material, open burning is prohibited between the hours of 6:00 AM- 6:00 PM during the months of March, April, May, October and November of each year. (ORC 1503.18)

#### PERMITS

Where Fire Department permits, approval, or notification is required, please contact the Monclova Township Fire Prevention Bureau (Monday 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM; Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM) at the Township/Fire Administration Building, 4395 Albon Road or (419) 865-9423 ext. 2017.

Permits may be submitted in person at the Township/Fire Administration Building or electronically [fireprevention@monclovatwp.org](mailto:fireprevention@monclovatwp.org).

Where a permit to Open Burn is required from the Ohio E.P.A., please call the Toledo Environmental Services Division at (419) 936-3015 to determine if your project is likely to qualify for a permit and to obtain an application form.



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#### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PERMIT INFORMATION

Location of Burn: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Burn: \_\_\_\_\_ Time(s) of Burn: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Material to be Burned: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Specific Purpose of Burning:

- ☐ Ceremonial ☐ Bonfire ☐ Disposal of residential waste (EPA if greater than 10x10x10ft)  
☐ Agricultural waste (EPA if greater than 10x10x10ft)  
☐ Prevention or control of disease (Health, ODA, USDA, EPA Required)  
☐ Disposal of land clearing waste (EPA Permission)  
☐ Silvicultural, horticultural, range and wildlife management (EPA Notification)

#### Method of extinguishment:

☐ 1- 4A Rating Extinguisher ☐ 2- 2A Rating Extinguisher ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

- Application must be accompanied by detailed mapping to include burn location and distance(s) from inhabited structures, roadways, railroads, airfields, woodlands, brushland or field containing dry grass or other inflammable materials.
- Application must be submitted to the Fire Prevention Bureau ten (10) days prior to burn date.

***By signing below, I certify that the statements made above are true and accurate and authorize a representative of the Monclova Township Fire Department to access my property during reasonable hours for the purpose of determining if my project qualifies for approval. If approval is granted, I agree to comply with all requirements of the Ohio Fire Code as stipulated in the permit.***

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU USE ONLY		
Date Received:	Plan Review Completed:	Inspection Date:
Disposition: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	Permit Number:	Inspector:
<b>After final inspection and approval submittal of ESO Inspection Report, sign and return to Fire Prevention Bureau.</b>		
Inspector Signature: _____		Date: _____
Supervisor Signature: _____		Date: _____



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**OPEN BURN MAP** (RECOMMENDED TO USE LUCAS COUNTY AREIS, GOOGLE EARTH, OR SIMILAR SOFTWARE)

