

Open Burning Information for Holly & Rose Township Residents

Open burning season is upon us once again. Many residents prefer to burn their yard waste as opposed to using other methods of removal. Holly Township & Rose Township both allow open burning under their ordinances which are enforced by North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA).

Open burning is the burning of unwanted materials such as paper, trees, brush, leaves, grass, and other debris, where smoke and other emissions are released directly into the air without passing through a chimney or stack.

Anyone who prefers to burn needs to be responsible and have a good understanding of their local ordinances before starting any type of outdoor fire. Fire can easily spread from the area you are burning in, and quickly get out of control. Each year NOCFA responds to numerous out of control fires and just about every one of them is the result of someone not following the open burning ordinances.

All open burning in Holly Township & Rose Township requires a permit from NOCFA. There is no charge for the permit. You simply call and request one. If permits are being issued for that day you will be asked to leave your name, address with the nearest crossroad, phone number and briefly explain what you are burning. A burning permit is only good for the day that you request it. You must call for a new permit each day that you burn. There are times that burning is not allowed due to weather conditions or long periods without rain and therefore burning permits will not be issued for those days.

The guidelines that NOCFA uses to determine the status of open burning for the day, come from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). If winds for our area that day are forecasted to be above 15 mph or gusting above 20 mph, burn permits will not be issued.

The following is a list of some of the rules for open burning but I encourage everyone to read the through their Townships entire open burning ordinance.

- A permit is required to kindle or maintain any outside (open) burning that is not in an authorized container. Burn permits may not be issued on some days due to weather conditions or State Moratoriums. Burn permits are only valid for the day you call and will only be issued between the hours of 6AM to 6PM.
- Outside (open) burning shall be 50 feet from any structure, wooded area or heavy vegetation area and must be of a manageable size. If burning in an authorized container with a lid, it must be 15 feet from any structure, wooded area or heavy vegetation area.
- Outside burning shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is completely extinguished. The person shall have the proper fire extinguishing equipment readily available: shovels, garden hose, extinguisher, ETC.

- No open burning shall be allowed in or on any public road or right- of- way.
- All open burning must be extinguished by dark with the exception of recreational fires such as camp fires and small bon fires. These types of fires must be in a pit & should be no larger than 3ft. x 3ft. Camp Fires do not require a permit.
- Burning shall not cause a nuisance to neighbors.
- Burning of any petroleum products such as plastic, tires & roofing material is prohibited.
- Burning of rubbish, garbage, household waste, treated lumber & construction & demolition materials is not allowed.
- Any persons found in violation of the ordinance are liable for all damages resulting there from, including the cost of firefighting equipment and manpower.
- The Fire Chief or his designee may revoke or deny a burn permit at any given time and may issue fines for illegal burning.

For the complete open burning ordinances visit your Township's Web Site.
www.hollytownship.org or www.rosetownship.com and click on "Ordinances"

To obtain burn permits in Holly Township & Rose Township
contact:

North Oakland County Fire Authority
248-634-2620

Be Safe.

Jeremy Lintz
Fire Chief
North Oakland County Fire Authority