

***Suggested Guidelines for conducting
Open Burning:***

Starting the Fire

- ~ Before placing materials to be burned in an area, remove all grass.
- ~ Before burning brush, dry by cutting in advance or covering.

Start the fire using either small amounts of kerosene, #2 fuel (*not gasoline*), or use a pressurized burner which uses diesel fuel.

While Burning

Someone (18 or older) must attend the fire at all times until completely extinguished.

Have a water supply available, such as a pressurized water pump can or hose, and shovels or rakes for controlling the fire

Extinguishing the Fire

Burn the fire down to coals and spread the coals with snow, water, sand, or soil.

Fire must be out by 4 PM

The only times a permit is not necessary are:

- ~ To combat or backfire by persons affiliated with an official firefighting agency.
- ~ For cooking purposes.
(attended by person 18 + yo)

All open burning must be conducted during periods of good atmospheric ventilation without causing a nuisance,

as determined by DEP.

For any questions on air quality contact:

MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION DIVISION OF AIR
QUALITY CONTROL

One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

**DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY
CONTROL
REGIONAL OFFICES:**

Central - Worcester
(508) 792-7690

**Call
9-1-1**

For All Emergencies

FEE PAID _____

Permit # 10 - _____



**HARVARD FIRE
DEPARTMENT**

2010

**OPEN BURNING
PERMIT
&
INFORMATION**

**Open burning
is permitted between
January 15th - May 1st
between the hours of
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Call (978) 456-8276
daily after 9:00 AM
for authorization to burn**

**Fire Department Business Line
978-456-3648**

Revised 12/30/09

REQUIREMENTS & RESPONSIBILITIES IN MASSACHUSETTS

The burning of any material out-of-doors releases large amounts of carbon monoxide and other gaseous and solid substances directly into the atmosphere. Open burning causes air pollution and aggravates respiratory problems. Under poor atmospheric conditions, open burning creates a smoke and odor nuisance - as well as a health threat - to area residents, especially in densely populated areas. For these reasons, open burning is restricted in Massachusetts.

Burning (with a permit) of the following material is ALLOWED:

~ Brush, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris from other than commercial or industrial land clearing operations between January 15th - May 1st under the following conditions:

- Burning must be a minimum of 75 feet from all dwellings.
- Burning must be carried out between 10 AM and 4 PM.
- Burning must take place on land closest to the source of material to be burned.

~ Materials normally associated with the pursuit of agriculture, such as fruit tree pruning, dead raspberry stalks, blueberry patches for pruning purposes, infected beehives for disease control.

~ Trees and brush resulting from agricultural land clearing.

~ Fungus-infected Elmwood if no other acceptable means of disposal is available (disease-free brush is not an acceptable starting aid).

Permits are also required for the following:

~ Training or research in fire protection or prevention with the specific approval by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

~ Burning of Christmas trees from December 26th to January 7th of each year.

~ One ceremonial bonfire each year to observe a municipal, state, or national event, under the supervision of the Fire Department.

~ Bonfires between July 2nd and July 6th, under the supervision of the Fire Department.

Open Burning is prohibited state wide for the following:

- ~ Commercial/ Institutional Land clearing, non-agriculture purposes.
- ~ Construction debris
- ~ Household rubbish
- ~ Grass, hay, leaves, stumps
- ~ Logs greater than 4" diameter
- ~ Tires

Open Burning

As described in the CMR's must be conducted:

1. Under the provisions of a properly executed permit issued under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 48 s 13
2. During periods of good atmosphere ventilation.
3. Without causing a nuisance.
4. With smoke minimizing starters if starters are used.

310 CMR 7.07(3)(a) through 310 CMR 7.07(3)(f) as of 7/1/94

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/310cmr07.pdf>

An open burning permit authorizes you to burn. It's your responsibility to keep the fire under control.