

Burn Permits

Open burning inside the Town of Erwin, Tennessee is illegal without first obtaining a Burn Permit and complying with all regulations of all laws and ordinances.

The permit is issued on the following terms and conditions and for the purposes stated herein:

This permit does not relieve the holder from any applicable state and/or federal laws or regulations regarding open burning. The Town of Erwin, Tennessee, its officers and/or agents and/or employees assume no responsibility and/or liability for any acts or events that occur related to the issuance of this permit. The permit holder can be held criminally and civilly liable for his/her actions or allowing others to act in a manner that causes property damage or personal injury.

1. All yard and other residential burning shall be done from 8:00 a.m. until one (1) hour after sunset.
2. Only natural vegetation and untreated wood shall be burned. The fire shall not contain any treated/painted lumber, rubber products, asphalt products, petroleum products, plastics, garbage, dead animals or any material that emits offensive odors. No chemicals or hazardous materials, no medical or biological waste shall be burned.
3. Persons and equipment capable of extinguishing the fire shall be on the burn site and in attendance at all times.
4. There shall be no burning within 50 feet of any fence or other structure.
5. The outdoor fire shall not be caused or allowed during meteorological conditions conducive to the buildup of air contaminants.
6. The air contaminants emitted from the outdoor fire shall not be in sufficient quantities, and of such characteristics and duration as is, or is likely to be, injurious to human health, plant or animal life, or property, or which unreasonable interferes with enjoyment of life and property.
7. Particulate matter from the outdoor fires must not be allowed to become deposited upon the property of others.
8. The burn pile shall not be larger than eight (8) feet in diameter and three (3) feet in height.
9. Only one pile shall be burned at any one time.
10. The burn permit shall be present at the location of the fire. The permit is not valid for burning at any other location.
11. This permit shall not be valid during any air pollution episode or period of impaired air quality.
12. Any permit issued may be revoked for the protection of life or property or to prevent or abate the nuisances caused by such burning.
13. A nuisance would be defined as ash fallout or smoke accumulation in the area of residential occupancies.

14. The violation of, or failure to comply with any provision of this permit is a misdemeanor, subject to enforcement action by Erwin Fire and/or Police Departments.
15. If a person starts a fire without a permit or if a permit holder fails to comply with any term or condition of the permit, and as a result of that failure the fire department is required to suppress a fire, the person or permit holder may be charged with a violation of the Town of Erwin, Tennessee Municipal Code and cited (issued a ticket) into Municipal Court for violation of the fire code. State Law violations could also apply.

Contact the Fire Department at (423) 743-3131 to obtain a burn permit inside the Town of Erwin, Tennessee. There is no charge for the permit. Someone from the Fire Department must inspect the proposed burn site.