



TOWN OF BURLINGTON

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Burlington Fire Department Open Burning Regulations

Massachusetts Open Burning Regulation 310 CMR 7.07 states that no person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit the open burning of any combustible material. This regulation shall not apply to open burning that is being conducted for the purposes of combating or backfiring an existing fire by persons affiliated with an official firefighting agency, open burning that is being used primarily for cooking purposes, or open burning related to the operation of devices such as blowtorches and welding torches, for which no alternative source of heat can be used, provided that such devices do not cause a condition of air pollution.

The following **Open Burning Regulations** shall be followed in the Town of Burlington, MA.

1. There will be no open burning prior to January 15th and after May 1st.
2. An Open Burning Permit must be obtained from the Burlington Fire Department.
3. A non-refundable check of \$25.00 made out to the Town of Burlington must be submitted with a permit application to the Burlington Fire Department.
4. Such permit shall not be valid for more than two days from the date of issuance.
5. A written record must be maintained for each permit issued including the name and address of the individual receiving the permit, the date of permit issuance and the location and type of material to be burned.
6. Such records must be available for public inspection.
7. Prior to issuing an open burning permit, the Shift Commander or designee may inspect the property for compliance.
8. Open burning must be conducted during periods of good atmospheric ventilation as determined by the MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP.)
9. The MA DEP Open Burning Telephone Hotline is updated by 8:00 AM every day during Open Burning Season. The number is **617-556-1021**.
10. It is **prohibited** to burn brush, cane, and forestry debris from commercial and/or industrial clearing operations.
11. It is also **prohibited** to burn grass, leaves, stumps, construction material and tires.

12. Open burning must be conducted without causing a nuisance as determined by the MA DEP and/or the Burlington Fire Department.
13. A single nuisance report will invalidate an approved open burning permit.
14. Open burning must be conducted with smoke minimizing starters if used.
15. No liquid starters such as gasoline may be used.
16. The burning of brush, cane, and forestry debris must be conducted:
 1. On land proximate to the place of generation.
 2. At a location greater than **75 feet** from **any Structure**. The term structure includes, but is not limited to, a house, deck or porch, garage, shed, swing set and fence.
 3. Between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM
17. The pile of brush, cane and forestry debris must not exceed 4 feet by 4 feet.
18. The material must be properly dried before burning.
19. The open fire must **never** be left unattended.
20. A means of extinguishing the fire must be present and available at all times. A garden hose is an acceptable means of extinguishment.
21. The individual who is conducting the burn **must** be:
 1. The property owner whose name appears on the permit.
 2. Over the age of 18.
22. The holder of the permit shall contact the Burlington Fire Department prior to igniting the material to verify if weather conditions are permissible in order to burn.
23. After the fire has burned out, all remaining materials must be thoroughly wet down to insure complete extinguishment.

The issuance of a permit does not release the holder from liability from damages caused by his or her fire.

Open Burning must be conducted without causing a nuisance to others. A nuisance to others can include smoke drifting into a neighboring property, smoke causing respiratory difficulties to neighbors and the smell of smoke drifting into neighboring properties.

Individuals conducting illegal burning may held liable under MGL Chapter 48 sec 13 which states that whoever violates any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500.00 plus the cost of suppression or by imprisonment for not more than one month or both.

The use of chimineas is not covered under this Open Burning Regulation.

Burlington Fire Departments Open Burning regulations are structured around the following sources:

- MGL Chapter 48 section 13
- 310 CMR 7.07 MA Open Burning Regulation



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION
TOWN OF BURLINGTON - FIRE HEADQUARTERS - (781) 270-1925

____ 19
(Date)

**APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
OPEN BURNING**

To: **HEAD OF FIRE DEPARTMENT**
BURLINGTON
City or Town

Name _____ Telephone Number _____
(Full name of person)

Address _____
(Street) (City or Town)

State clearly purpose for which permit is requested _____
for permission to set open fire as provided MGL (Ch. 48 Section 13)

Permit # _____

Date issued--rejected _____ 19 By _____
(Signature of Applicant)

Date of expiration _____ 19 Fee \$ _____ Paid--Due _____

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION

TOWN OF BURLINGTON - FIRE HEADQUARTERS - (781) 270-1925



____ 19
(Date)

OPEN BURNING PERMIT

Permit # _____

Granted to:

Name _____
(Full name of person) (Telephone #)

Address _____
(Street or P.O. Box) (City or Town)

State clearly purpose for which permit is requested _____
to set open fire as provided in MGL 48 §13
at house or lot number

Restrictions: Restricted to Burlington Fire Department Open Burning guidelines where applicable

Fee Paid \$ _____ (Signature of official granting permit)

This permit will expire _____ 19 (Title)

(THIS PERMIT MUST BE CONSPICUOUSLY POSTED UPON THE PREMISES.)