



Wayne Township Fire Department

700 N. High School Road · Indianapolis, IN 46214-3700

Phone: 317-247-8501

Fax: 317-248-4655

Open Burning Law

1. Open Burning NOT PERMITTED

1. Leaves, Grass, Trash or Garbage
2. Treaded wood, Construction lumber whether at a construction site or residence
3. ALL open burning is UNLAWFUL on the property of a Business, Apartment Complex and Mobile Home Parks

2. Open Burning PERMITTED

1. Ceremonial Bonfires in connection with Religious, School, Scouting and/other like activities.
2. Campfire or Cookouts.
3. Burning of plant life grown in on the property in the course of agricultural operations.
4. Dried limbs, twigs and branches originating on owner or adjacent properties.

3. Open Burning PERMITTED REQUIREMENTS

1. Container to be non-combustible with closed sides and bottom with an open mesh type covering for the top.
2. Container shall be 15 feet away from any building or structure, drip line of trees.
3. Burning allowed between the hours of 10 am to 3 pm only.
4. Fires shall be attended at all times.
5. A method of extinguishment (garden hose or fire extinguisher) shall be available.
6. ANY fire the Wayne Township Fire Department receives a complaint about MUST be extinguished.

4. Open Burning Permits

1. To open burn a material other than what is specified in Section 2 above, a permit shall be obtained thru:

Indianapolis Department of Works
Air Pollution Control Division
2700 South Belmont Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46221
Phone 327-2277

REVISED CODE of the Consolidated City and County
INDIANAPOLIS / MARION, INDIANA

Sec. 511-702. Open burning restricted; general prohibitions.

It shall be unlawful at all times to cause, suffer or allow any open burning at any place within Marion County except as permitted by sections 511-703 through 511-706; provided, no person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit the emission into the atmosphere of any substance or combination of substances from the burning of wood products as allowed therein in such quantities as to cause annoyance or constitute a nuisance so as to interfere with the health or well-being of any individual in his/her home or place of employment or recreation or as to interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of any such place. (Code 1975, § 4-71)

Sec. 511-703. Limited burning for special purposes.

The open burning of wood products which does not create a nuisance or a fire hazard and which is attended by a responsible person at all times until completely extinguished is allowed for the following purposes:

- (1) **Ceremonial fires and bonfires.** A bonfire in connection with a religious ceremony, school pep rallies, scouting activities and similar purposes.
- (2) **Camp fires and fires for cookouts.**
- (3) **Fire for personal comfort:**
 - a. Fires required for personal comfort;
 - b. A bonfire in connection with recreational activities including, but not limited to, sledding and ice skating.
- (4) **Open burning of agricultural wastes:**
 - a. Open burning of plant life grown on the premises in the course of agricultural operations, when it can be shown that such open burning is necessary and that no fire hazard will occur, provided the person intending to dispose of plant life by open burning shall obtain approval from the fire department which has jurisdiction and from the Indianapolis Air Pollution Control Division.
 - b. Any open burning permitted under the provision of this subsection shall be allowed only between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and only at times when the actual or forecast wind speed as given by the local National Weather Service is greater than five (5) miles per hour and less than twenty (20) miles per hour. Such fires shall consist of plant life only.
- (5) **Stoves for heating and fireplaces.** Fires shall be permitted in wood stoves for heating and fireplaces if such fire does not create an air pollution problem or a fire hazard.
- (6) **Limbs, twigs, and branches.** Residents of single- or double-family dwellings located on one (1) or more residential lots shall be allowed to burn only dried limbs, twigs and branches (but not leaves) originating on their or contiguous premises, but only between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Burning shall be more than fifteen (15) feet from any structure, in a noncombustible container, sufficiently vented to induce adequate primary combustion air, with enclosed sides, a bottom and a mesh covering with openings no greater than one-fourth (1/4) inch. If such fire creates a health hazard, it shall be extinguished. (Code 1975, § 4-73)