



GUIDELINES FOR CONTROL BURNS IN BLANDFORD-BLENHEIM TOWNSHIP

Open Air Burning Ontario Fire Code 2.4.4.4.

The Township Fire Department has adopted a series of guidelines to curb the growing problem of unnecessary fire calls.

1. If you are going to have a controlled burn, you **must** contact the Township Office (Fire Chief) at 519-463-5347: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Have available where and when you plan to have the fire, and its approximate duration. During this time, you will be the only one who can call for assistance from the fire department if the fire gets out of hand. For this reason, never leave any fire unattended. Make sure the fire is completely extinguished before leaving.
2. Avoid starting any fires in dry situations and on windy days. Even the most carefully attended fire can quickly get out of control if conditions are right.
3. Do not start any controlled burns past 4:00 PM. Fires that burn into the evening and night are easily mistaken by others as burning out of control.
4. Do not have large fires. If there is a lot of material to burn, split it into a series of smaller fires that can be easily managed.
5. Respect your neighbors. Avoid having large quantities of smoke drifting towards neighboring dwellings as it is not only irritating, it can also be a fire hazard.
6. NO fires are allowed in the Villages of Bright, Drumbo, Plattsville, Princeton, Wolverson Forest Estates or Maple Lake Mobile Home Parks unless they are in a barbeque pit, or used for cooking purposes only. Remember that even when fires are out, these pits can still be very hot and easily lead to burns, especially of small children.
7. All controlled burns require a 48 hour notice to Chief Fire Official.

Guidelines for Burning and Barbeque Pits and their use:

- Pit and fire not to exceed twenty four inches (24") in diameter.
- Pit will have sides no higher than twenty four inches (24").
- It is recommended that dry wood only be burnt.
- All toxic materials prohibited by the Environmental Protection Act including treated, painted or laminated wood, tires, rubber, leaves/brush, plastic, asphalt, foam and insulation shall not be burnt, at any time.
- Fire must be supervised at all times.
- Sufficient water or other fire retardant equipment is readily available to keep fire under control.
- Fire pit should be constructed fifty feet (50') from any building or overhead wires.

Ontario Fire Code 2.4.4.4 (1) states:

Open air burning shall not take place unless:

- (a) It has been approved, or
- (b) The open-air burning consists of a small, confined fire that is:
 - (i) Used to cook food on a grill, barbeque or spit.
 - (ii) Commensurate with the type and quantity of food being cooked, and
 - (iii) Supervised at all times

