

Terms and Conditions of Open Burning

• Make sure you **PROHIBIT ALL OUTDOOR BURNING** on RED FLAG WARNING DAYS.

• It is illegal to burn without an open burning permit in the State of Maine.

• You must be at least 18 years of age to obtain an Open Burning Permit.

• You can only burn upon property you own or you must be in possession of written property owner permission.

• You must print your permit or have it available electronically. A hard or electronic copy of the permit must be in hand during times of open burning.

• If the fire department receives any type of complaint about the burning, we are obligated to investigate and may potentially require the fire be extinguished.

• All fires must be extinguished on the permitted date and by the end time listed on the permit.

• You may not start a fire with any type of accident.

• Common materials that you cannot burn may include but are not limited to paper, cardboard, furniture, mattresses, plastics, chemicals, auto batteries, rubber, tires, pressure treated lumber, plywood, OSB and other sheet goods, finished wood, painted wood, outdoor or garage insulation, fluorescent, expanded polystyrene foam, metal, charcoal, asphalt shingles, house wrap and no paper or wire insulation. You may use a small amount of paper or cardboard to start the fire.

• Burning prohibited materials or violating other permit restrictions may result in extinguishment of your fire, liability for future permits and/or a summons to appear in court.

• The fire must be carefully watched and controlled by a sufficient force of capable adults; the permit holder shall be responsible for suppression costs should the fire escape fire or negligence.

• Fires larger than an average 50'V shall be broken down into smaller piles.

• **Final user and permit holder shall retain responsibility for a permit.** Permit holder is responsible for not burning or extinguishing the fire should the wind speed be increased at 10mph or higher.

To obtain a FREE online Open Burning Permit please visit: www.wardsoffire.com

1. Click [Here](#) to go to the map.

2. Type [Backland](#) in the box.

Note: If the system does not go to the [Terms and Conditions](#) screen you are attempting to obtain a permit outside of allowable burn times or the current fire danger (HIGH, VERY HIGH or EXTREME) prohibits the issuance of an outdoor permit. At the discretion of the fire officer in charge at the fire station a hard written permit may be issued on days classified as HIGH. If you have difficulty please contact the fire station 207-754-6916.

3. Read and Agree to the [Terms and Conditions](#).

4. Fill out the permit. Note: when entering your phone number you must use dashes.

5. Click [Submit](#).

Print and Sign your permit. **DO** have the permit available electronically. You may have access to the permit by use of these methods at the burn location if you don't have a printer or electronic device please visit the fire station at 124 Park St. or Backland for assistance with printing or obtaining an open burning permit.

Campfires

Recreational campfires do not require an open burning permit. However the following additional requirements apply to meet the definition of a campfire. Maine defines a Recreational Campfire as: "An outdoor fire that is used for cooking, personal warmth, light or ceremonial or aesthetic purposes that is not part of debris disposal's (aka burning brush). A residential fire contained within an outdoor fireplace also falls into this category."

Campfires:

• Shall be kindled upon property you own or you must be in possession of written property owner permission.

• Shall have a responsible adult present.

• Shall be kindled upon bare soil or other noncombustible base.

• Shall be located at least 10' from combustibles in all directions including above within the fireplace is designed for reduced clearance.

• The fire shall not be more than 30" diameter at the base or have a flame height exceeding 30".

• Shall be kindled using common stove length firewood, commercially available logs and/or untreated dimensional lumber scraps.

• Shall NOT be used for disposal of materials to avoid giving a permit.

• Shall have the same restrictions on prohibited materials listed earlier in this document.

• Are strongly discouraged on days with Very High or Extreme Fire Danger conditions and are not prohibited by law during Red Flag Warnings or updated Red Zone 11 at: www.maine.gov/sofnet