



FOREST LAKE FIRE & RESCUE

Phone: 651-464-2244

OPEN BURNING INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS:

A burning permit is required to ensure safe burning of vegetative combustible materials. Forest Lake Fire & Rescue operates under a joint powers agreement between the cities of Columbus and Forest Lake with the following open burning regulations:

- **BURN:** untreated vegetative material (wood, grass, leaves, etc.)
- **Do NOT burn:** garbage, oil, rubber, plastic, tires, railroad ties, treated lumber, shingles, tar paper, sheetrock, wiring, paint and hazardous and industrial wastes. A complete list of materials that cannot be burned is found in MN law 88.171.

You do NOT NEED a burning permit to burn the approved materials listed above:

- for fires contained in a charcoal grill, camp stove or other device for the purpose of cooking
- for a campfire or recreational fire smaller than 3 ft. in diameter, and the ground is cleared of combustible materials 5 ft. around the base of the fire
- if there is at least 3 inches of snow cover surrounding the immediate area of the fire.

WHEN YOU SIGN AND RECEIVE A MINNESOTA BURNING PERMIT YOU AGREE TO:

- Burn from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. (overnight).
- Clear combustible materials 5 ft. around the base of the fire.
- Pile material to be burned, and keep piles no larger than 10 ft.x10 ft. in size.
- **Keep piles at least 50 ft. from any structure (including your own).**
- Use a clean burning device to start the fire.
- Keep the fire under control at all times.
- Assume responsibility for all damages and costs that may result from your fire.
- **Attend the fire until completely extinguished.**
- Not allow the fire to smolder without flame.
- Extinguish the fire immediately if the permit is revoked.
- Ensure the prevailing wind is away from nearby occupied buildings, and not exceeding 10 mph
- Have the permit available at the burn site for inspection.
- Not burn paper, cardboard or household garbage.
- Not allow the fire (per MN Statute 609.704) to be a public nuisance, and extinguish the fire if the smoke creates a nuisance.
- Not burn if there is an alternative method for disposal, such as chipping or composting.

Standard MN Open Burning Permits:

Available at no cost at Columbus City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., during office hours Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Wed. from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Phone: 651-464-3120.

SPECIAL Burning Permits:

Required for daytime or running fires, or any burn which does not comply with Standard Open Burning Permit rules. To apply for a Special Burning Permit contact the MN DNR at 763-689-7100 ext. 231.

NOTE: Ensure your address is prominently displayed at your driveway entrance in case of emergency.
Burning is a privilege and you are responsible for doing it safely.