

OPEN BURNING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Burn permits are required from the Allegheny County Health Department for all open burning except recreational, camping or cookouts or fires for the warmth of work crews. The Township, Fire Department or Police Department do NOT issue burn permits. The Fire Department will NOT consider burning a structure or building until the owner secures the proper open burning permit from the Allegheny County Health Department.

Recreational, camping or cookout fires must meet the following conditions:

- 1.) The fire must be located a minimum of 10 feet from the nearest structure, inhabited area, roadway, property line or utility.
- 2.) The pile being burned may not exceed 16 sq feet by 3 feet high.
- 3.) Only dry clean wood or other clean-burning fuels may be burned.
- 4.) Only smokeless fuels to start the fire may be used.
- 5.) The North Fayette Township Police Department **must** be notified by calling 412-787-8900 **prior** to starting the fire.

A common misconception regarding open burning is “as long as some type of consumable food is present it is considered a recreational, camping or cookout fire.” That is a misconception of the burning laws and regulations and is NOT true. If the purpose or intent of the burning is not specifically for recreation, camping or a cookout, the fire is NOT permitted without securing the proper burn permits, even if the fire will meet the above requirements.

Fires for the warmth of work crews must meet the following conditions:

- 1.) The burning must be conducted in a noncombustible container no larger than a 55 gallon drum.
- 2.) The material being burned is completely contained by the container.
- 3.) Only one container is used for each work crew
- 4.) The outside temperature must be less than 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

For open burning permit information, please contact Mr. Majeed Basher of the Allegheny County Health Department, Air Quality Program at 412-578-8135 or visit their web site at www.achd.net, and click on Dept. of Air Quality.

To file an open burning complaint, please contact the Police Department at 724-693-8400 or contact the Health Department’s 24-hour hotline at 412-687-2243.