



Forest Lake Fire Department
1408 Lake Street South
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-2244

Open Burning Information & Regulations

To assist you in safely burning on your land, a burning permit is required. The Forest Lake Fire Department, in cooperation with the City of Forest Lake, City of Columbus & City of Wyoming, operate under the following open burning regulations:

Visit <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire> or call 763-284-7208 daily before burning to determine if there are fire restrictions for that day!

Only untreated vegetative material may be burned

Items that **cannot** be burned are: Household garbage, oil, rubber, plastics, tires, treated lumber, tarpaper, sheetrock, paint, etc... A complete list of material that cannot be burned is found in **MN Law 88.171 – Open Burning Prohibitions.**

No permit is required for the following:

- Fires contained in a charcoal grill, camp stove, or other device for the purpose of cooking
- Campfires or recreational fires, provided that it is not larger than 3 feet in diameter and that the ground is cleared at least 5 feet around the base of the fire
- When there is snow cover of 3 inches or more surrounding the immediate area of the fire

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

- Burn between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.
- Clear combustible material 5 feet around the base of the fire or burner
- Pile material to be burned and keep the piles less than 10 feet x 10 feet in size
- Keep piles at least 50 feet from any structure
- Use clean burning devices to start the fire
- Keep control of the fire at all times
- Assume responsibility for all damages and costs that may result from your fire
- ***Attend the fire until it is completely extinguished***
- Do not allow the fire to smolder without a flame
- Extinguish the fire immediately if the permit is revoked
- Ensure that the prevailing wind is AWAY from occupied structures, public roads, airports, & landing strips
- Have a permit available at the burn site for inspection
- Do not burn paper, cardboard, or household garbage
- Do not allow the fire to become a public nuisance
- Extinguish the fire if the smoke creates a nuisance – Per MN Statute 609.704
- Not to burn if there is a practical alternative method for disposal of the material such as chipping, composting or recycling
- Not to conduct burning during any air quality alert
- Not to burn prohibited materials (M.S. 88.171) unless authorized under Minnesota Statutes
- Will abide by all Minnesota Statutes and local ordinances pertaining to open burning
- Permittee is at least 18 years of age
- Burning is prohibited below the ordinary high water mark of public waters except for agricultural operations or for the purposes of managing forests, prairies or wildlife habitat

SPECIAL burning permits are required if your burn cannot comply with the above regulations. To apply for a **SPECIAL** burning permit, contact the Forest Lake Fire Chief at 651-209-9722. Please allow 7-10 days for an inspection and issuance of the permit. ***Burning is a privilege and you are responsible for doing it safely***

Ensure that your address is prominently displayed and clearly visible from the roadway