



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 763-689-7116 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***