



Kaufman County, Texas

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
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Subject: Burning Regulations

Since the Fire Code was adopted on June 18, 2007, our office has received numerous calls from concerned citizens about the burning regulations in our County. The regulations are primarily geared toward the burning of trash and brush piles. The only thing that is legal to burn on open ground is brush, branches, limbs and leaves that occur from that particular property. It still is, and has always been, illegal to burn trash on open ground i.e. plastics, rubber products, metals, glass, furniture, appliances etc... It is also illegal to burn or bury trash on open ground.

A citizen may burn common household trash in a burn barrel without having to make phone notification. The barrel must have a grate or screen on top and must be monitored during the burning. A water hose is also required that will reach the barrel if necessary. Whenever the burn barrel becomes full, it must be disposed of at a proper landfill.

Brush burning should be conducted as early in the daylight hours as possible and no brush should be added to the burn pile after approximately 5:00 p.m. This is an effort to avoid a flame producing fire after dark. When possible, all burn piles should be extinguished before nightfall. Hopefully, this will reduce the number of phone calls reporting unknown type fires.

It is LEGAL during daytime or nighttime to:

- have recreational fires (campfires)*
- have ceremonial fires*
- have cooking fires (hotdogs)*

These types of fires must be extinguished when the activities are finished.

*** The entire contents of the burning regulations can be found online on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality website at: www.tceq.state.tx.us*

We hope this information has been helpful and if there are any questions please call our office.