

WHO REGULATES OPEN BURNING?

The Illinois Pollution Control Board (Board) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA or Agency) regulate open burning.

Pursuant to 415 ILCS 5/9(c):

No person shall cause or allow the open burning of any refuse, conduct any salvage operation by open burning, or cause or allow the burning of any refuse in any chamber not specifically designed for the purpose and approved by the Agency...except that the Board may adopt regulations permitting open burning of refuse in certain cases.

* LaSalle County Environmental Services and Land Use Department, under the delegation authority of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, enforces open burning regulations throughout LaSalle County.

* State law or regulation does not override local prohibitions or limitations on open burning. Local ordinances may be more restrictive and must be followed. Local ordinances may require that additional permits be obtained.

CONTACT US

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Reference:

Do You Have a Burning Question?
The Facts about Open Burning in Illinois.
(Illinois EPA, April 2011)

Burn Barrels – Your Questions Answered.
(Illinois EPA, July 2006)

THE FACTS ABOUT

OPEN BURNING

In Illinois.

Open Burning is the combustion of any matter in the open or in an open dump. 415 ILCS 5/3.300.



Illinois Laws and Regulations on Open Burning Allow the following activities Without a permit:

Cooking and campfires are allowed on private property and in public areas where specified.

If allowed by local authorities/governments, Landscape waste may only be burned on the site where they are generated, or at sites provided and supervised by a local government.

Types of Open Burn Permits:

- FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING/ FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING
- LANDSCAPE WASTE W/AIR CURTAIN DESTRUCTOR
- PRAIRIE & ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE BURNS
- DISASTER DEBRIS OPEN BURN

If you live in any town or within one mile of an Illinois town with a population of 1,000 or more: It is illegal to burn anything except for landscape waste.

The Following Activities are Never Allowed or Permitted:

Open burning of waste by a business is illegal (except for landscape waste generated to maintain the property and agricultural waste generated to maintain the property under limited circumstances).

Examples of waste that can never be burned:

- Commercial waste
- Garbage (i.e.; food, food scrapes, food packaging, diapers)
- Construction/ Demolition Debris
- Tires
- Materials containing asbestos

Potential Sanctions:

For any violations of Section 21(p) of the [Illinois] Environmental Protection Act ("Act") [415 ILCS 5/21 (1994)] the Agency may file an Administrative Citation before the Illinois Pollution Control Board pursuant to Section 31.1 of the Act [415 ILCS 5/31.1 (1994)]. An Administrative Citation carries a fine of \$1,500.00 for a first offense and \$3,000 for a second or subsequent offense for violation of any provision of Section 21(p).

Why should I stop burning?

Burn barrels are the most significant remaining source of dioxin in the U.S. and produce a variety of other toxins.

Your individual choices impact the quality of everyone's food supply.

Your health and the health of your family and neighbors may depend on it.

You risk causing forest fires in some areas.

You may be breaking the law.

What can I do to help?

Contact a local garbage hauler about disposal options.

REDUCE extra packaging by buying in bulk. Avoid buying disposable items; buy durable, repairable items.

REUSE by donating unwanted clothing, furniture, toys and electronics to friends or charities.

RECYCLE junk mail, magazines, newspapers, office paper, cardboard, aluminum, tin, metal and acceptable plastics.

