

## WHAT CAN I BURN WITH MY PERMIT?

### Allowed

Brush  
Leaves  
Needles  
Grass  
Clean wood  
Unrecyclable paper\*  
Unrecyclable cardboard\*

YES

NO

### Prohibited

Garbage  
Plastics  
Shingles  
Foam  
Structures  
Furniture  
Wire  
Metal  
Electronics  
Vinyl products  
Rubber products  
Oil-based products  
Painted, stained or treated wood

\*Recycling of clean paper and cardboard is required!

## IS BURNING REALLY NECESSARY?



### Reduce

Buy in bulk and use washable containers for storage.



### Reuse

Find someone else who can use it, have a yard sale, or donate. Bring reusable shopping bags when shopping.



### Recycle

Separate newspaper, magazines, cardboard, paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum, steel or tin cans.



### Dispose

Discard non-recyclable waste materials at a licensed landfill.



### Compost

Mulch or collect leaves and plant clippings for composting or move brush piles in the woods for wildlife habitat.



### Chip

Collect brush and clean wood to make mulch or decorative chips, or use as heating fuel in fireplaces.



### Wait

Avoid burning in the spring. The safest time to burn is when the ground is completely snow-covered. Throw a tarp over legal materials and wait until it snows.

This brochure contains a summary of forest fire laws and associated rules; it is not a complete set of laws. For additional information, please consult Sections 26.11 and 26.12 Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter NR 30, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

## 1-888-WIS-BURN County Codes

County	Code
Adams	01
Ashland	02
Barron	03
Bayfield	04
Brown*	05
Buffalo*	06
Burnett	07
Calumet*	08
Chippewa	09
Clark	10
Columbia	11
Crawford	12
Dane	13
Dodge*	14
Door*	15
Douglas	16
Dunn*	17
Eau Claire	18
Florence	19
Fond du Lac*	20
Forest	21
Grant	22
Green*	23
Green Lake	24
Iowa	25
Iron	26
Jackson	27
Jefferson*	28
Juneau	29
Kenosha*	30
Kewaunee*	31
LaCrosse*	32
Lafayette*	33
Langlade	34
Lincoln	35
Manitowoc*	36

County	Code
Marathon	37
Marinette	38
Marquette	39
Menominee	40
Milwaukee*	41
Monroe	42
Oconto	43
Oneida	44
Outagamie*	45
Ozaukee*	46
Pepin*	47
Pierce*	48
Polk	49
Portage	50
Price	51
Racine*	52
Richland	53
Rock*	54
Rusk	55
St. Croix*	56
Sauk	57
Sawyer	58
Shawano	59
Sheboygan*	60
Taylor	61
Trempealeau*	62
Vernon*	63
Vilas	64
Walworth*	65
Washburn	66
Washington*	67
Waukesha*	68
Waupaca	69
Waushara	70
Winnebago*	71
Wood	72

\*Indicates a county where the DNR does not set burning permit requirements.



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# BURNING PERMITS

## It's Your Responsibility!

1.888.WIS.BURN (947.2876)

[dnr.wi.gov/wisburn](http://dnr.wi.gov/wisburn)

# Q&A BURNING REGULATIONS & PERMITS

Burning permits are required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in many parts of the state to conduct safe and legal outdoor burning. Regardless of burn location, anyone wishing to burn in the outdoors should contact local fire officials before burning to find out if permits or restrictions are in place.

## WHY DOES THE DNR ISSUE BURNING PERMITS?

Every year hundreds of wildfires in Wisconsin are started as a result of careless outdoor burning. Burning permits, if used appropriately, are an important tool in wildfire prevention. They encourage the public to burn safely in the outdoors and are proven to be effective in protecting lives, property, and natural resources from the damages of wildfires.

## WHAT TYPE OF BURNING REQUIRES A BURNING PERMIT?

DNR burning permits are issued to individuals for burning on the ground and in barrels when the ground is not completely snow-covered (see the DNR Forest Fire Protection map). These no-cost permits are good for the calendar year and are non-transferable.

Upon DNR inspection, special permits may be issued for all day burns, land clearing, and piles or broadcast burns exceeding the local maximum size limit. Contact your local DNR Ranger Station for more information.

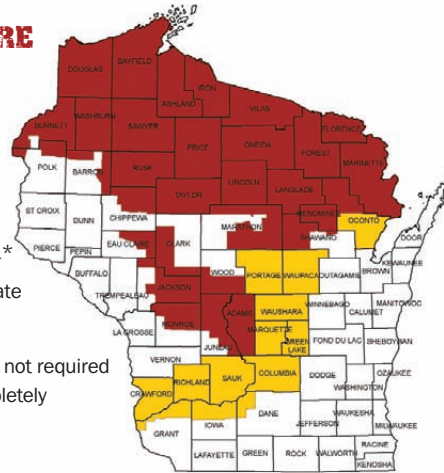
## DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR A CAMPFIRE?

Small fires for warming or cooking purposes do not require a burning permit and are allowed anytime except during Emergency Burning Restrictions. Burning in a fire ring with the intent to eliminate debris is not a campfire and therefore a permit is required.

## DNR FOREST FIRE PROTECTION

- Burning permit required all year\*
- Burning permit required January 1 – May 31\*
- DNR does not regulate burning permits

\*DNR burning permits are not required when the ground is completely snow-covered.



## WHO MAKES THE RULES WHERE I PLAN TO BURN?

It is your responsibility to know where you are burning and what restrictions apply. Therefore, you must comply with state burning laws as well as any local burning ordinances which may be more restrictive than state law. DNR annual burning permits are only valid within DNR Protection Areas and outside incorporated cities and villages. Contact your local DNR office, fire department, town chairperson, or local municipal official if you have any questions on who regulates where you wish to burn.

## WHAT ARE THE SIMPLE STEPS TO RESPONSIBLE BURNING?

**1** Obtain an annual permit from a local Ranger Station, Emergency Fire Warden, or by dialing 1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) to have a permit mailed or instantly emailed

**2** On the day of the burn, check after 11:00 a.m. on the internet or over the phone:

[dnr.wi.gov/wisburn](http://dnr.wi.gov/wisburn)  
Click on the county  
**OR**

**1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876)**  
Enter the two-digit county code  
(See list of County Codes)

**3** Follow the rules for the day, have tools and water, and make certain your fire is completely out before leaving!

## WHAT TYPES OF RESTRICTIONS COULD BE IN EFFECT?

Based on the current fire danger, the internet and toll-free phone number will provide you with the most up-to-date fire restrictions. The restrictions will tell you if burning permits are required, if burning is allowed, the hours of burning, any size limitations, or if burning has been suspended for the day due to critical forest fire danger.

## WHAT IF I FAIL TO OBTAIN A PERMIT OR CHECK THE DAILY RESTRICTIONS?

It's your responsibility to have the annual permit available and ready to show to law enforcement personnel or firefighters if requested at any time while burning.

If you fail to obtain a permit, call the toll-free number or check the internet, you may be cited for not following the restrictions. Furthermore, if your fire escapes and starts a wildfire, you will likely be held liable for all suppression costs.

## WHAT IF THE PHONE OR INTERNET IS NOT ACCESSIBLE?

If phone or internet access is not available, be sure to contact your local DNR Ranger Station or Emergency Fire Warden to check the burn restrictions for the day. Do not burn unless you can determine what the burning restrictions are for the day you wish to burn.



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