



Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
P.O. Box 548, 496916 Grey Rd 2
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0
Telephone 519-599-5411

Town of the Blue Mountains Recreational Open Air Burning Guidelines

The Ontario Fire Code states that property owners conducting open-air burning must do so in approved areas. This guideline will provide property owners in The Blue Mountains with the information required to ensure their properties meet the following minimum requirements for recreational open air burning such as campfires. This will also pertain to the use of appliances used for outdoor burning which do not conform to the Technical Standards and Safety Act.

The Fire Department should be notified prior to the ignition of any outdoor fires, to ensure fire bans are not in place due to poor air quality or extremely dry conditions. The contact number is 519-599-2211. The information required from the property owner will be name, telephone number, and date of burning and civic address. This is a notification process only and should not be considered as an approval.

It is the property owners' responsibility to ensure the following minimum requirements are in place prior to burning. They include but are not limited to:

- the fire is contained in a pit
- the materials to be burned must be limited to dry wood or by-products of wood
- the pit is a maximum of one meter in diameter
- the pit is a minimum of ten meters from any buildings, overhead wires and combustible vegetation
- a means of extinguishment is on site
- the fire is supervised at all times by a competent person
- the fire is completely extinguished when it is not being supervised

By-law 2004-23 will also be enforced if smoke or particulate from open air burning becomes a nuisance to the public or could affect the health and wellness of the public. The By-Law Dept can be contacted at 519 599 3131 ext 249 during normal business hours. After hours nonemergency bylaw concerns can be directed to 310-1122. Leaves and garden waste which produce excessive smoke cannot be burned. The Landfill site on Grey Road 13 accepts leaves, garden waste and brush for disposal at no charge.

In the event the fire department is requested to respond to open air burning complaints where the above noted requirements have not been met or a fire is out of control, the fire will be extinguished and a user fee charged to the owner of the property in accordance with by-law 2009-72, schedule D, "emergency response services", item #1.

If you require further information please contact The Blue Mountains Fire Department during normal business hours at 519 599 5411.