



Ottawa County Open Burning Regulations

On Monday, May 6, 2024 Ottawa County Commissioners repealed Resolution 16-24 adopted on October 24, 2016 and adopted **Resolution 24-08** pertaining to open burning within the boundaries of Ottawa County.

- This resolution requires individuals to pre-register with the Ottawa County Emergency Management and obtain a registration number which must be renewed every 5 years. **You must Register or Re-Register starting July, 1, 2024 as you old Registration number will no longer be valid.** Burn registration numbers are non-transferable, however the holder of the burn registration number may designate in writing a person who is 18 years of age or older to oversee and conduct the burn.
- Any individual who intends to conduct any Agricultural or Non-Agricultural Open Burning shall obtain a Burn Permit Number from Ottawa County Dispatch at 785-392-2157 no more than 1 hour prior to the start of any burning operation and must provide the following information:
 - ⇒ Registration Number of person responsible for burn;
 - ⇒ Contact information for the person supervising the burn (if different or updated from the information on the registration);
 - ⇒ Exact location of intended open burning operation
 - ⇒ Type of material being burned;
 - ⇒ Time of burning operation including beginning time and estimated time burn will be completed;
 - ⇒ Any other information requested by Dispatch.
- The holder of the BRN or their designee shall remain in continuous attendance of the burning operation and maintain the ability to control the fire and report its status, if necessary.
- **NO** Agricultural or Non-Agricultural Open Burning shall occur if the National Weather Service has issued a “Red Flag Warning” or “Wind Advisory” for Ottawa County. Burning of a brush pile may not occur when a “Red Flag” warning is forecast anytime during the 72 hours after ignition and they must have 100 foot fire break from combustible material or structures.
- Non-Agricultural Open Burning shall be prohibited if wind speeds are **15 mph or above** and **NO** Agricultural Open burning if wind speeds are **20 mph or over**.
- Absolutely **NO** burning shall be initiated **1 hour before sunset until 1 hour after sunrise** unless special permission has been obtained from the Fire Chief having jurisdiction.
- A Burn Ban can be put in place by the Fire Chief having Jurisdiction over a Fire District. Any such burn ban shall pertain to all Agricultural or Non-Agricultural Open Burning in all areas of the county.
- Absolutely **NO** burning shall take place within 150 feet of any structure, oil tank or vehicle(s) not owned or operated by the Registrant.
- A person shall not conduct a burn that creates traffic or other safety hazards.
- Fire Chief having jurisdiction may temporarily revoke a person’s Burn Registration number for 30 days.
- To request pre-registration and obtain a registration number you may do so by contacting Ottawa County Emergency Management. You can stop by the office at the courthouse, call (785-392-3600) or email (otem@ottawacounty.org).

If you have any questions you can contact Marie Ballou at 785-392-3600 or check the Website at ottawacounty.org -> emergency management -> burn regulations