



Open Burning Regulations for the Town of Swansea

In accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulation 310 CMR: DEP 7.07:U and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 48, Section 13, in relation to “Open Burning”

Unless open burning is being conducted for the purpose of:

- Combating or backfiring an existing fire by persons affiliated with an official firefighting agency; or,
- Is being used primarily for cooking purposes,

The following conditions must be met:

1. Possession of a valid permit from the local fire department or warden
2. Open burning must be conducted:
 - a. During periods of good atmospheric ventilation
 - b. Without causing a nuisance
 - c. With smoke minimizing starters if used

Open burning permits may be used for:

1. Training or research in fire protection or prevention with specific approval by the Department of Environmental Protection
2. Activities associated with the normal pursuit of agriculture which have been determined by the Department of Environmental Protection as necessary (Agriculture is defined as a raising of crops and livestock for commercial uses)
3. Open burning of brush, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris – excluding grass, hay, leaves and stumps. All such open burning to be conducted:
 - a. From January 15th to May 1st of each year;
 - b. On land proximate to the place of generation;
 - c. At a location greater than 75-feet from any dwelling;
 - d. Between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
 - e. While attended to, at all times, by a competent adult (18-yrs of age and older);
 - f. With a suitable form of suppression equipment readily available

Under all circumstances the following is prohibited:

1. Burning of brush, trees, cane and driftwood from commercial or institutional land clearing operations
2. Burning of grass, hay, leaves and stumps
3. Burning of tires
4. Burning during adverse meteorological conditions

REGULATIONS ON

OPEN BURNING

5. Burning at landfills or refuse disposal facilities other than DEP approved incinerators
6. Stacking, placing or storing combustible materials such that DEP may presume that it will be burned

PLEASE NOTE: Permission to burn must be obtained **each day** from the Fire Department by calling (508) 672-4305 **AFTER 9:30** and referencing the above permit number.