

Open Burning in Olmsted Township

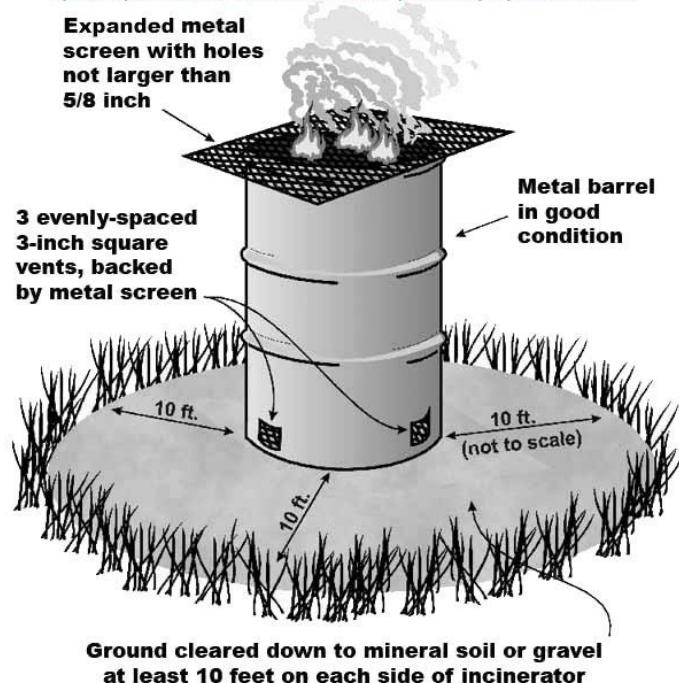
Ohio law limits what and where you can burn openly. Open burning is generally prohibited in Olmsted Township with just a few exceptions.

Cooking and Recreational Fires

Cooking and recreational fires are allowed without a permit or notification to the fire department. You may have a fire for cooking, warmth, pleasure, ceremonial, or similar purposes without notification and/or permission from the Olmsted Township Fire Department. These fires are for the preparation of food or recreation and are restricted to cooking appliances or small fire pits for a limited duration, typically not more than a couple of hours. Fires should be kept in containers with flames less than two feet high and should never be left unattended. BBQ grills and very small fires in fully enclosed or approved containers with a chimney may be placed within a reasonable distance to a structure (never closer than 15 feet), provided that it remains on a noncombustible surface and does not pose a fire risk. Restrictions for cooking and residential fires require residents to burn only clean, dry, seasoned firewood, and the fire must be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet high. The fire may not be used for waste disposal.

Burn Barrel Specifications

NOTE: Outdoor debris burning is prohibited from 6AM to 6PM during March, April, May, October, and November even if you use a proper burn barrel.



Larger Ceremonial Fires

By notifying Olmsted Township Fire Department in advance, larger ceremonial fires can be set for limited periods. These fires must burn only clean, dry, seasoned firewood and cannot be used for waste disposal. The fire must be no larger than 5 feet in diameter and 5 feet high and burn no longer than 3 hours.

Occupational Fires

Occupational fires used for heating tar and hot work such as welding torches are permitted, as are fires used for warmth for outdoor workers and strikers on picket duty. These fires must use clean, seasoned firewood and be contained in a 55-gallon drum.

Prohibited Open Burning

The open burning of plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, grass, shrubbery, and leaves is generally not permitted in Olmsted Township.

Ohio Open Burning Laws

- Ohio Administrative Code 3745.19: Regarding Outdoor Burning
- OAC 3745.19 is enforced by the Ohio EPA
- EPA notification is required for many types of open burns in Ohio.
- Call 614-644-2270 with questions or visit: [Ohio EPA Open Burning]
(<https://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.aspx>)

Materials NEVER to be burned at any time or any place in Ohio:

- Food Waste
- Dead Animals
- Materials containing rubber, grease, asphalt, or made from petroleum.

Other Restrictions:

- Fires must be more than 1000 feet from a neighbor's inhabited building.
- No burning when air pollution alert, warning, or emergency is in effect.
- Fire/Smoke cannot obscure visibility on the roadway, railway, or airfields.
- No waste generated off the premises may be burned.

- No burning within village or city limits or restricted areas.

Ohio Revised Code 1503.18

- Regarding Kindled Fires

- ORC 1503.18 is under the authority of the Ohio Division of Forestry.
- This law prohibits outdoor open burning statewide in unincorporated areas during March, April, May, October, and November between 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM.
- This ban includes burning yard waste, trash, and debris, even in a proper burn barrel.

During spring, wildfire danger is high before plants have turned green, and during fall, fire danger is high due to abundant dry leaves and dead grass. Warm, windy weather in both seasons also contributes to elevated fire risk. Always use a proper burn barrel when burning outdoors during legal hours.

Call ODNR Forestry at (877) 247-8733 with questions.