



# Bainbridge Township Fire Department

17822 Chillicothe Road  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023  
Geauga County

Lou Ann Metz, OFE  
Fire Chief

Office: 440-543-9873

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## OPEN BURNING POLICY

Effective August 1, 1998

Revised May 20, 2023

Open Burning is not allowed anywhere in Bainbridge Township without first obtaining a Permit from the Bainbridge Twp. Fire Dept. To get a Fire Dept. Open Burning Permit, Fire Prevention will need to be contacted at **(440) 543-9873** with:

1. Location of burn
2. Who is to burn, i.e., resident, contractor, etc.
3. What are you going to burn?

The Bainbridge Twp. Fire Dept. cannot issue any Open Burning Permits to areas located in the EPA Restricted Areas or for Land-Clearing Waste without first obtaining written permission from the Ohio EPA. Many areas in Bainbridge Township are in EPA Restricted Areas:

- Within the boundaries of any municipal corporation.
- Within corporation limits and a 1000-foot zone outside any municipal corporation having a population of 1,000 to 10,000.
- Within corporation limits and a one-mile zone outside any municipal corporation with a population of more than 10,000.

Requests for EPA permits must be made to:

### Lake Co. General Health District

5966 Heisley Road  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
(440) 350-2543

LCGHD applications can be obtained here:

<https://www.lcghd.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Residential-Application-2022-1.pdf>

The following conditions are placed on permits in addition to those by the EPA:

1. Burning to be performed during daylight hours only.
2. The Fire Dept. must be notified each day prior to burning.
3. Burn Piles must be a minimum of 50-ft. from any structure and 1000-ft. from neighboring inhabited building.
4. Burning must be always attended with a suitable water source for extinguishment.
5. Burn Piles are not to exceed 5-ft. in diameter x 5-ft. in height.
6. No materials are to be burned which contain rubber, grease, asphalt, roofing shingles or made from petroleum, such as tires, cars and auto parts, plastics, or plastic-coated wire.
7. No Garbage is to be burned – any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking or consumption of food.
8. No dead animals are to be burned.
9. Fire is to be set only when atmospheric conditions will readily dissipate contaminants.

\*Failure to obtain a permit or extinguish a fire when ordered could result in prosecution.

## Open Burning Policy -Continued

### **Ohio Burn Ban -Ohio Division of Natural Resources**

Ohio Revised Code [1503.18](#) prohibits most open burning in unincorporated areas in March, April, May, October, and November between 6am and 6pm. The Bainbridge Twp. Fire Dept. will not issue any Open Burning Permits for this period.

### **Additional Information:**

**Small Recreational Fires** (Barbeques, campfires, cookouts, etc. -no larger than 3-ft. in diameter x 2-ft. in height) are allowed without a Permit providing safety regulations are followed. You may burn only clean (untreated), seasoned wood or equivalent. These fires must always be attended and farther than 15-ft. from any structure in an approved container or fire ring. Any smoke from a Recreational Fire that becomes a nuisance must be extinguished. *An odor of smoke in an area without actual smoke is not considered a nuisance.*

The EPA open burning standards are available at the Fire Station and at this link:  
<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/air-pollution-control/open-burning>

More information can be found here:  
<https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/47/facts/openburn.pdf>