



Christopher Norris  
Fire Chief

# EASTHAMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

32 Payson Ave  
Easthampton, MA 01027  
(413) 527-4200 TEL  
(413) 529-1407 FAX

## Easthampton Fire Department burning Regulations

### 1. Open Burning during Brush Season

- Open Burning Season runs from January 15 – May 1
- Open Burning requires a permit from the Fire Department per 527 CMR 1, s. 1.12.8.1, in accordance with the Department of Environmental Protection regulation 310 CMR DEP 7.07
- Each day, in conjunction with appropriate agencies of the Commonwealth, the Fire Department shall determine if atmospheric conditions are safe for burning
- If you purchase a seasonal permit, you must still call the fire department on the day you'd like to burn to ensure atmospheric conditions are safe for burning
- Burning may commence at 10am and the fire shall be completely extinguished by 4pm
- Materials suitable for burning include tree branches, brush, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris
- Construction material, grass, hay, leaves, stumps, tires, and any items not in the list above are strictly prohibited and may not be burned
- Materials to be burned shall not be piled higher than 5 feet, or 10 feet in width, or 25 feet in length
- Open Burning may not take place within 75 feet of a structure or dwelling
- The person authorized to conduct open burning granted under the permit shall remain in attendance at all times to control the fire until it is completely extinguished
- A garden hose or other suitable water supply shall be present on site where the burning is being conducted
- Issued permits for open burning must remain available on site for review by the Fire Department or any agency of the Commonwealth upon request
- To obtain a burning permit, go to <https://ma-easthampton.civicplus.com/158/Fire> and click the link "Burning Permit"

### 2. Cooking Fires

- According to the State of Massachusetts, residential burning outside of the purpose stated above, must be used primarily for cooking. All other fires are prohibited.
- Cooking fires can be conducted throughout the calendar year
- Fires must be constantly attended by a competent adult 18 years of age or older, and by an individual who is the owner of the property, or has been given permission by the owner of the property
- A permit is not required to conduct a cooking fire, however, a courtesy call to the public safety dispatcher is requested (413-527-4200) to log the locations of such fires and to ensure that air quality, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection, and weather conditions, as determined by the Fire Department OIC in conjunction with the National Weather Service (weather.gov) are appropriate

- Safe weather condition parameters will include no issued Red Flag warnings for the day, and forecasted sustained winds or wind gusts less than or equal to 15mph. As far as weather conditions can change throughout the day, so shall the permission to burn be granted or suspended/
- Fires shall be no more than 3 feet in diameter and surrounded by non-combustible material.
- Fires shall be more than 15 feet away from any structures.
- Appropriate burning material includes dry firewood, natural gas, propane, and charcoal. Construction material, grass, hay, leaves, stumps, tires, and any items not in the list above are strictly prohibited and may not be burned
- An extinguishing source (preferably a garden hose) must be readily available during burning
- According to the Massachusetts Fire Code, any member of the fire department has the authority to have a cooking fire be extinguished if the regulations are not followed or if there are circumstances that create hazardous conditions.

**\*People conducting illegal burning, or who allow a fire to get out of control, may be held liable for the costs of extinguishing the fire, in addition to fines or imprisonment (M.G.L. c.148, s. 13)**