

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN OF HARWINTON THAT ORDINANCE  
CONCERNING OPEN BURNING BE ADOPTED.

## **OPEN BURNING**

### **§1.1 Definitions**

As used in this ordinance, the words and terms used herein are defined  
as follows:

Brush - shrubs, vegetation, or prunings the diameter of which  
is not greater than three (3) inches at the widest point.

Commissioner - Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental  
Protection.

Open air burning - combustion in which the products of combustion  
are emitted directly into the ambient air space.

Open Burning Official - The official appointed by the First Selectman pursuant to  
state statutes  
and regulation.

### **§1.2 Open Air Burning Permit Requirement**

No person shall set or cause or permit an open air fire without obtaining an open air  
fire without obtaining an open air burning permit from the Commissioner or Open Burning  
Official unless exempt from the provisions of this ordinance as specified in §1.3 below. The  
applicant for an open air burning permit shall complete an application on form(s)

provided by the Commissioner or Open Burning Official which shall include a description of the purpose of the fire, the nature and quantity of material to be burned, time and date of the fire together with any other information required by the Commissioner or Open Burning Official.

### §1.3 **Exemptions**

A permit as described in this ordinance shall not be required for the following fires.

- A. Open air fires set for the purpose of cooking food for human consumption.
- B. Fires set for the purpose of abating an immediate fire hazard provided such fire is supervised by an officer of the Fire Department.-
- C. Fires set in salamanders or other similar devices used by construction or other workers for heating purposes, which fires are essential to street installation or paving activities, the repairing of utilities, or other similar work.
- D. Fires set for the purpose of fire-training exercises under the supervision of an officer of the Fire Department when only liquid fuels are burned.

### §1.4 **Fires for Which Permits Are Required to be issued by the Open Burning Official**

- A. Bonfire or recreational or ceremonial fires.
- B. Fires set for the purpose of burning bush on property owned by the applicant.
- C. Fires set for the purpose of prevention, control or destruction of diseases or pests, and agricultural burning for vegetation management.

§1.5 **Fires for which permits are required to be issued by the Commissioner.**

- A. Landfill fire with permit issued to Open Burning Official.
- B. All other fires.

§1.6 **Restrictions and Prohibitions on Burning**

Open air burning permits shall not be issued when the Open Burning Official or Commissioner determines that:

- A. National or state ambient air quality standards may be exceeded.
- B. A hazardous health condition might be created.
- C. The forest fire danger in the area is identified by the State Forest Fire Warden as high or extreme and where woodland or grass land is within one hundred feet of the proposed burn.
- D. There is an advisory of any air pollution emergency episode.
- E. The fire constitutes a salvage operation.
- F. A practical alternative method for disposal of the material to be burned exists.
- G. The material to be burned consists of garbage, paper, glass, metal, plastic, leaves, rubber, painted surfaces, demolition waste, automobiles or automobile scrap.
- H. Burning would be conducted in a Town right-of-way.

§1.7 **Permit regulations and standards.**

- 1. The permit shall be valid only during the dates and approximate time as specified in the permit for the burn.
- 2. Only those quantities and materials specified in the permit shall be burned.

3. Permits shall be issued within 24 hours of the proposed burn except that permits for Sunday or holiday burns shall issued on last municipal business day before the burn.
4. The Open Burning Official or Commissioner may revoke, by oral or written notice, an open air burning permit by notification of Litchfield County Dispatch Center if one of the conditions specified under §1.5 becomes an issue after such permit is issued.
5. A copy of the permit shall be kept in the possession of the applicant at the burning site during the burn.
6. Except for fire fighting exercises, burning shall be permitted on sunny or partly sunny days when wind speed is 5 to 15 miles per hour.
7. Prior to burning, the permittee shall call the Litchfield County Dispatch on the day of intended burning to ask whether the permit has been revoked.

§1.8 **Penalties**

Any person who violates any of provision of this ordinance shall be fined \$100.00 for the first offense and not more than the maximum allowed by law for each subsequent offense.

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**AMENDED BY ORDINACE 100**