

# Township of Athens Fire Department



FIRE EMERGENCY 9-1-1

Mike Smid  
Fire Chief

Tom Fenn  
Deputy Chief

## OPEN AIR BURN PERMIT – CAMP FIRE – OUTDOOR APPLIANCE

Approval is hereby granted to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ OF: \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner/Occupant Civic Address of Property

To conduct Open air Burning in an APPROVED Outdoor Appliance, Fire Pit or Camp Fire in accordance with Fire Department Criteria and Guidelines for outdoor appliance, fire pit or camp fire published below Permitted at the above property address.

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and will abide by the criteria and guidelines for OPEN AIR BURNING and I understand that any DEVIATION from these Criteria renders this permit invalid**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Issuing Officer/Designate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Issue

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner/Occupant

(permit valid Until Dec.31<sup>st</sup> in year of issue)

- Out of Courtesy please notify your neighbours prior to OPEN AIR BURNING
- It is your responsibility to check for BURNING BAN DURING DRY WEATHER or HIGH WINDS -613-924-2044, local newspaper, local radio station, Municipal website – [www.athenstownship.ca](http://www.athenstownship.ca), Fire Hall Sign, Township entry road signs.
- LOSS OF CONTROL OR SPREAD OF FIRE WILL RESULT IN FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT CHARGES BEING LEVIED, as per the Municipal Fees by-law to a minimum of \$350.00, Failure to comply with any provisions stated herein may also result in you having your permit revoked; or being charged under the Ontario Fire Code; or all of the above.

### Criteria & Guidelines

**ONTARIO FIRE CODE 2.6.3.4.**, Open Air Burning shall not be permitted unless approved, or unless such burning consists of a small, confined fire, supervised at all times, and used to cook food on a grill or a barbecue.

#### 1. An Outdoor Wood Burning Appliance shall:

- Consist of a commercially manufactured metal or other non-combustible container that is in good condition having a volume no larger than 1 cubic metre unless APPROVED by Chief Fire Official.
- The appliance shall have a heavy mesh screen on top with openings no larger than 7 mm (1/4") and securely fastened to the top of the appliance unless otherwise approved.
- The appliance must be a minimum of **3 metres (10 ft)** from any combustibles in all directions. (Examples: trees, overhanging branches, buildings) and **10 metres (33 ft)** from all property lines unless otherwise APPROVED by Chief Fire Official.

#### 2. Fire Pit/Camp Fire shall:

- Consist of non-combustible materials on a mineral surface containing a small quantity of clean wood that would have a volume no larger than 1 cubic metre unless otherwise APPROVED by the Chief Fire Official.
- The materials being burned shall not discharge large embers into the atmosphere.
- The Fire Pit/Camp Fire must be a minimum of **3 metres (10 ft)** from all combustibles (Example: trees, overhanging branches, buildings) and **20 metres (65 ft)** from all property lines.

#### 3. The person requesting permission for Open Air Burning assumes full responsibility for conducting Open Air Burning in accordance with the following safety measures and common sense:

- be attended at all times by a sufficient number of competent persons and must have on hand sufficient equipment to keep the fire under control, You must keep a shovel, rake and water readily available at all times
- extinguish the fire before leaving the site for any period of time
- No open fire is to be maintained when the wind is in such a direction as to cause a decrease in visibility on any traveled road or any odour to such extent or degree as to cause adverse effect on persons living in the affected area.
- No open fire is to be started on days of adverse weather or other conditions that prevents the ready dispersion of smoke.
- Materials to be burned must not include petroleum products, plastics, rubber or other materials that create excessive smoke or environmental damage. **Never burn plastics, rubber materials, synthetic materials, or household refuse!!!!**

It must be recognized that Open Air Burning can cause air pollution. Smoke and odours from open fires can aggravate respiratory conditions, soil property, reduce visibility and generally lessen the enjoyment of property. Section 14 of the Environmental Protection Act reads, in part, "Despite any provisions of this Act or the Regulations, no person shall discharge a contaminant or cause or permit the discharge of a contaminant into the natural environment that causes or is likely to cause an *adverse effect*".

#### Where adverse effect by definition means one or more of:

- Impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that it can be made of,
- Injury or damage to property or to plant or animal life, Harm or material discomfort to any person,
- Adverse effect on any person, Impairment of the safety of any person,
- Rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for use by man,
- Loss of enjoyment or normal use of property, and Interference with the normal conduct of business.