



BRIGHTON AREA FIRE AUTHORITY

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BRIGHTON & GENOA TOWNSHIP: RULES FOR OPEN BURNING

Are recreational fires allowed?

A small 3' diameter by 2' high (campfire) fire is considered a recreational fire. These are allowed under the following conditions:

- Only seasoned dried firewood may be used
- The use of accelerants is strictly prohibited.
- Kept at least 25' from any structures or combustible materials (house, shed, garage, wood fence, deck, etc.)
- Provide a means that will keep the fire from spreading to within 25' of structures (garden hose turned on, shovels, metal rakes, sand, etc.)

Can I burn yard waste? (Open Burning)

Yes, open burning of yard waste may take place between sunrise and sunset only; leaves, brush, twigs, and tree limbs may be burned with the following conditions:

- The use of accelerants is strictly prohibited.
- The fire is kept at least 50' from any structures or combustible materials (house, shed, garage, wood fence, deck, etc.).
- A means is provided that will keep the fire from spreading to within 50' of structures (garden hose turned on, shovels, metal rakes, sand, etc.).

Can I have a bonfire?

Bonfires are typically related to religious ceremonies or special events. These are generally quite large and must be permitted and approved by the fire department. The following conditions apply for bonfire approval:

- Only seasoned dried firewood may be used.
- The use of accelerants is strictly prohibited
- The fire is kept at least 50' from any structures or combustible materials (house, shed, garage, wood fence, deck, etc.).
- A means is provided that will keep the fire from spreading to within 50' of structures (garden hose turned on, shovels, metal rakes, sand, etc.).

Portable outdoor fireplaces

These are permitted under similar conditions as a recreational fire with the 25' separation requirement being reduced to 15'.

Can I burn household trash or construction waste?

No, under no circumstances can household trash or construction materials be burned.

All fires shall be constantly attended by an adult with an appropriate means of extinguishment for the duration of the fire.

Where open burning creates or adds to a hazardous situation the fire department is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning.

(Summarized rules per the International Fire Code, Charter Township of Brighton and Genoa Township Ordinances)