



## **"BURNING REGULATIONS"**

Bedford Township  
Temperance, MI 48182

1. Any applicant and/or property owner, as a condition of a Permit to Burn, or any property owner who ignites a fire for which a Permit to Burn is not required, shall at all times provide for any fire to be attended by an adult, and shall ensure that all fires are properly and completely extinguished prior to vacating or leaving the area of the burn.
2. The burning of leaves and brush is only permitted on **Fridays between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., during the months of April, May, October, and November.** Burning shall not be less than 25 feet from any structure, 15 ft from any lot line, and the pile size cannot exceed 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet in height. **Burning shall not be permitted within ditches or drainage areas or upon any road surface.** No Bedford Township "burning permit" is required, however, all burning will be monitored and subject to fines and fire department expenses, ordinance, or other related administrative fees.
3. The burning of yard waste (grass, brush, leaves, plant materials, etc.) in open fires are prohibited in the months of January, February, March, June, July, August, September and December. Permits may be issued during these months by the Fire Chief, his designee, or the Township Supervisor's Office, for special circumstances deemed and approved by the Fire Chief. The permit fee is \$25.00.
4. Campfires shall be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and not exceed 3 feet in height. Campfires must be placed in a pit, grill, be trenched, **enclosed or contained**, and shall be attended at all times. Campfires are permitted from 3:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight without a Bedford Township permit. Campfire burnings **require clean materials only.** Grass clippings or leaves cannot be burned. **Campfires shall be for RECREATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.** No burning permit is required.
5. Bonfires shall be no larger than eight (8) feet in diameter and not exceed eight (8) feet in height. Bonfires can burn from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight and shall be attended at all times, but are prohibited in Bedford Township platted subdivisions unless approved by the Fire Chief. A **BONFIRE PERMIT** must be obtained from the Fire Chief, his designee, or the Township Supervisor's Office. The permit fee is \$25.00. Bonfires must be trenched or contained in some safe fashion. **Bonfires shall be in open areas where sparks and embers would be unlikely to endanger structures.** Bonfire burnings **require clean materials only.** Grass clippings or leaves cannot be burned. Bonfires shall be for **RECREATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.** Bonfire permits will be issued to the property owner or a representative (over the age of 18) with written permission from the property owner. **Bonfires shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, 15 feet from any lot line, or within ditches or drainage areas.** *All proposed*

*bonfire locations shall personally be inspected by the Fire Chief of the Bedford Fire Department, or the Designee of the Fire Chief, or the Bedford Township Supervisor's office prior to the issuance of a Permit to burn.*

6. Burning in an approved burning barrel with a mesh cover/screen can take place without a permit for small limbs and leaves during the normal burning months of April, May, October & November, on Friday 2 pm – 6 pm, Saturday and Sunday 8 am – 6 pm. Burning of newspaper, papers, cardboard can be done in a burning barrel without a permit any month of the year on the same days and times as above. **Burning barrels shall not be located less than 25 feet from any structure, 15 feet from any lot line, or within ditches or drainage areas.** No burning permit is required.
7. The burning of trees, logs, large brush and stumps, or for similar materials that may take longer than ten hours to burn, or agricultural burning as part of a farm operation on agriculturally zoned property where generally accepted agricultural and management practices under Act 93 are followed, but not for the burning of yard waste materials, including grass clippings or leaves or small limbs, subject to restrictions and conditions imposed by the Fire Chief or his designee, may be allowed by the Fire Chief or his designee. A burning permit must be obtained from the Fire Chief, his designee, or the Township Supervisor's Office. The permit fee is \$25.00 for non-farming burning and there is no permit fee for farming burning.
8. The Township will enforce any total burning ban instituted by the Governor or Fire Chief for hazardous environmental conditions during dry weather. It shall be the owner's responsibility to be aware of any changes in the burning regulations and/or any bans on burning imposed by the Bedford Fire Department.
9. The burning of garbage, **wet leaves**, hazardous material, or material causing toxic fumes is strictly prohibited at all times within Bedford Township.
10. Any person, firm, or corporation who negligently allows a fire to escape or who is unable to control any fire, or allows a fire to re-kindle after having vacated the area of the burn, which results in the Bedford Township Fire Department attending to or containing the fire, is liable for all expenses incurred by Bedford Township in the suppression of such fire, and may be charged at the rate of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each vehicle dispatched to attend to or contain the fire.

#### Fees

Permits \$25.00

#### Fines (within a 2 year period)

1<sup>st</sup> offense \$75.00

2<sup>nd</sup> offense \$225.00

3<sup>rd</sup> offense \$775.00

**Effective May 16, 2017**