

Permits are required if the ground is not covered in snow.

BURNING GUIDELINES

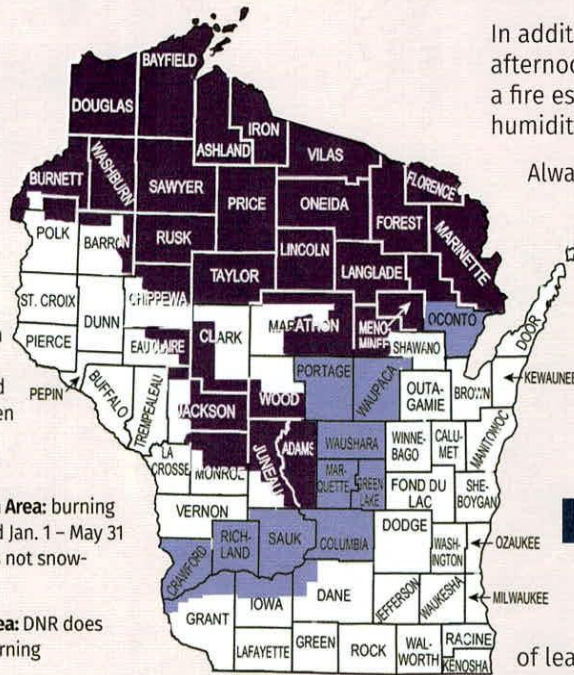


DNR FOREST FIRE PROTECTION AREAS

DNR Protection Area: burning permit required year round when ground is not snow-covered*

DNR Protection Area: burning permit required Jan. 1 – May 31 when ground is not snow-covered*

Cooperative Area: DNR does not regulate burning



**Small campfires for warming or cooking purposes do not require a DNR burning permit.*

In addition, burning is typically restricted to late afternoon or evening hours to reduce the chances of a fire escaping. In the evening, winds are calmer, humidity rises and temperatures are cooler.

Always keep an eye on the changing weather conditions and stay within the specified burn times and size limitations as indicated by the daily restrictions.

SAFETY TIP: Avoid burning in the spring! The safest time to burn is when the ground is completely snow-covered. Throw a tarp over legal materials and wait until snow accumulates and will remain on the ground for the duration of your burn.

What You Burn Matters

Always consider alternatives to burning such as recycling, chipping or composting.

If you choose to burn, only small amounts of leaves, brush, needles, grass, clean wood and unrecyclable paper or cardboard can be burned with a DNR burning permit. For a complete list of what is allowed, refer to the restrictions listed on the permit.

Burning permits are issued to individuals for burning piled debris on the ground or in barrels. This includes prescribed or broadcast burns for land management purposes. Maximum acreages and pile sizes are limited by geographic area and indicated within the daily burning restrictions.

Who Burns Means Compliance

Permit holders must comply with all the conditions associated with the burning permit and take all reasonable precautions to prevent escape of the fire. Burning permits are issued annually to an individual person, not the burn location, and are non-transferable. They are intended for those wishing to burn small amounts of yard debris or clean wood from a single family household on the property where it was generated.

Businesses or commercial entities burning waste materials, including waste generated off-site by individuals, is not valid under this annual permit but may be eligible for a solid waste wood burning facility license. Contact the DNR solid waste specialist for your area prior to any burning.

Where You Burn Makes a Difference

Burning permits are required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in DNR Forest Fire Protection Areas, outside incorporated cities and villages, to conduct burning of legal materials when the ground is not completely snow-covered.

You must comply with state burning laws as well as any local ordinances which may be more restrictive than state law. Contact your local DNR office, fire department, town chairperson or local municipal official if you have any questions on the burning regulations where you plan to burn.

When You Burn is Important

Weather conditions and moisture content in vegetation play the biggest role in how wildfires start and spread. Therefore, the time of year and even the time of day influences how burning is regulated.

Spring is Wisconsin's peak fire season and when most fire restrictions are in effect. This occurs shortly after the snow cover disappears and prior to vegetation greening.