



OPEN AIR BURNING

Open air burning has become a concern for a number of environmental conscious residents in the Municipality. The Municipality is providing some alternatives for consideration by both our urban and rural residents, in order to reduce air pollution and to promote recycling and reuse.

Open air burning is regulated within the municipality. Open air burning will only be conducted with approval of the Fire Chief or his/her designate and in accordance with the conditions set out in the Controlled Burn Permit issued by the Fire Chief or his/her designate.

There are different rules regarding burning in our urban and rural areas. The Municipality suggests the following safe and environmentally friendly practices be adopted by you, your family and your neighbours.

Rural Areas

- ✓ For brush and scrub vegetation
- ✓ Must obtain a permit from the Fire Chief
- ✓ Must be supervised at all times
- × Not for garbage or recyclables; save time by using blue box or garbage tags
- × No construction materials

Urban Settlement Areas

- ✓ For cooking and warmth
- ✓ Restricted to 0.2 cubic metres of wood or charcoal
- ✓ Must be supervised at all times
- × Not for garbage or recyclables; save time by using blue box or garbage tags
- × No construction materials

When trash is burned in a burn barrel or woodstove, the fire is not hot enough to destroy poisonous substances, nor does it receive enough oxygen to burn efficiently. Left-over ashes can cause land and water contamination. The smoke is released right at ground level where it can directly harm others. In short, backyard trash burning is unhealthy for you, your family and your neighbours.

Save Time by Recycling and Bagging

Don't spend unnecessary time and increase air pollution by burning small amounts of recyclables and waste. Burning garbage is in violation of the Municipal Burning By-law and the Environmental Protection Act.

Putting your old telephone book in the blue box only takes seconds.... No smoke or ashes to clean up.

Let's all do our part to keep Thames Centre clean and beautiful!