



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



TOWN OF ELLINGTON
by Town Ordinance



DEPARTMENT OF
TOWN FIRE MARSHAL
Administrator
860-870-3126

ELLINGTON OPEN BURNING PROGRAM
OPEN BURNING FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES
ON NON-STATE OWNED PROPERTIES

(This Application is for the open burning of brush upon farm properties. Application for other types of fires requires a different form which must be obtained directly from the Department of Town Fire Marshal.)

OPEN COOKING FIRES or CAMPFIRES on SINGLE or TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY and ENCLOSED COOKING FIRES on ANY PROPERTY EXCEPT FORESTS and WOODLANDS DO NOT REQUIRE PERMITS.

APPLICATION and PERMIT (Fee: \$15.00 Non-refundable)

The Open Burning Program is adopted in primary form from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and supplemented by an Ellington Town Ordinance as proposed by the Ellington Board of Selectmen and adopted by the legislative body of the Town. The Program is administered by the Ellington Department of Town Fire Marshal.

The reading and understanding of the information presented herein is a necessary part of the application process and will require a few minutes PRIOR TO THE COMPLETION OF THE APPLICATION FORM.

The form is not complicated and is designed to be completed in most instances within three minutes or less, after the reading.

The Open Burning Program is structured to accommodate homeowners in need of disposing of small amounts of ornamental tree trimmings, garden materials and branches and brush generally accumulated as a result of our New England winters. The Program recognizes commercial farmers and attempts to accommodate them with their vegetation management, as well. Generally, however, it must be recognized that Connecticut discourages open burning and favors alternatives such as stockpiling the brush for animal cover, chipping the materials or hauling the materials to a brush dump. The Program is not suitable for general lot clearing operations of any kind. New building construction and changes of land use require more aggressive and more environmental friendly methods of clearing the land.

The application form provided in this packet is designed to address all of the concerns of both the State of Connecticut and the Town of Ellington

To begin, an applicant must first determine the likelihood of qualifying for a permit because the fee, which must be submitted with the application, is generally not refundable.

To qualify, the applicant must:

1. must be an owner of that property or must serve as an authorized agent for the owner of that property;
2. must be physically able to control the fire;
3. must have a means available instantly to control and extinguish the fire;
4. must have an approved permit upon his person during the burning; and
5. must have an address house number clearly visible in compliance with the Town House Numbering Ordinance (farmers are generally exempt);

The proposed open burning project itself must meet certain minimum conditions. Specific conditions are set out in the Town Open Burning Ordinance.

1. The material to be burned must be brush and/or tree trimmings only, not larger than three (3) inches in diameter (farmers may burn other vegetation under certain conditions);
2. leaves, tree trunk parts, stumps, demolition debris, grass clippings, garden vegetation and other materials are not permitted (farmers see #1, above) and will result in denial of the application;
3. the pile(s) must be constructed and ready for inspection prior to actual application for a Permit- this prevents non-productive site visits by the Inspector;
4. the size and number of pile(s) should be suitable to the general area so as to prevent any disturbances to neighbors, the motoring public, etc., because complaints will result in the Permit being declared null and void;
5. clearances of the pile(s) from each other, from property lines, from other combustible materials, and from overhead trees must be properly maintained.

Applicants should understand that an application is NOT a permit unless and until the application is approved. The Permit is issued only for the dates set down on that Permit. Careful consideration should be given to the dates requested. However, there is no guarantee that the dates you are assigned will be the dates requested. If the applicant cannot burn due to other matters requiring his/her attention or an unsuitable fire index or unsuitable weather the Permit expires and becomes null and void. The Permit cannot be extended except for extenuating circumstances. Therefore, applicants applying during the high hazard period, generally considered to be mid March through June, should consider this carefully. Alternative methods may be appropriate.

Even with an approved Permit, weather conditions are an important part of whether or not an applicant can actually burn. Wind must be between 5 and 15 mph and it must be a sunny or partly sunny day. You cannot burn before 10:00 am or after 5:00 pm. The air quality index must be less than 75 and the forest fire index cannot be higher than "Moderate". It is your responsibility to ascertain these indexes by utilizing the information presented upon the Open Burning Permit. While it is often considered easier to burn materials than to chip in place or haul to the Town Brush Dump, the legal parameters for burning are such that it may require more than one permit and several adjustments to an applicant's schedule to actually accomplish the burning. Serious consideration should be given to chipping the material in place or hauling (or hiring another to haul) the brush to the brush dump on Hoffman Road. The hours of service may be obtained by reviewing the Town Report or by calling Public Works (860-870-3140).

It may take several days to process an application and return via U.S. Mail an approved permit to the applicant. Sufficient time must be allowed for this process. **Recommended lead time is 7 working days.**

Your signature certifies that you have read and understand the material presented within this entire application packet. It also authorizes an Inspector to enter upon the subject property without an appointment and without your attendance for the purpose of processing this application.

Town of Ellington, Connecticut
 DEPARTMENT OF TOWN FIRE
 MARSHAL
 57 Main St. PO Box 187
 Ellington, CT 06029
 860-870-3126



Application and Permit for
 Open Burning for Agricultural Purposes
 on Non-State Owned Property

Permit No.:

APPLICATION

Applicant Name:	Applicant Residence Address:
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Primary Phone:	Work Phone:	E-mail:
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Street Address of Proposed Burn:

Property Owner's Name (if different from Applicant's):	Property Owner's Residence Address:
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Primary Phone:	Work Phone:	E-mail:
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Specific Location of the Proposed Burn Upon the Property:

Is the property where the proposed activity is to occur an agricultural and/or farming operation as defined in CT General Statutes, Chap. 1, Section 1-1(q): "agriculture" is the cultivation of the soil, dairying, forestry, and the raising or harvesting of any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including the care and management of livestock such as horses, bees, poultry, fur-bearing animals and wildlife. Agriculture also includes the raising or harvesting of oysters, clams, mussels, other shellfish or fish; the production or harvesting of maple syrup or maple sugar; the hatching of poultry; and the harvesting of mushrooms. The term also includes the handling, planting, drying, packing, packaging, processing, freezing, grading, storing, or delivering to storage or to market any agricultural or horticultural commodity as an incident to ordinary farming operations, or, in the case of fruits and vegetables, as an incident to the preparation of such fruits and vegetables for market or for direct sale." (see Appendix A, CGS § 1-1(q)). YES NO

Description of proposed activity:

Justification that the proposed activity is necessary and supports an Agricultural Purpose:

Description and quantity of material to be burned:

Methods and equipment IMMEDIATELY available to control and extinguish the burn:

Date(s) requested for the open burning:

APPLICANT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE the following information ONLY IF CHECKED:

- Documented Proof of Ownership* of the property on which the burning is to occur (i.e.: copy of Assessor's card, title or deed).
- If the applicant is not the owner of the property, then *Documented Proof of Ownership* of the property on which the open burning is proposed to occur and *Authorization from the Property Owner* to conduct the proposed burn.
- Documented Proof of Notification* to adjacent property owners.
- Other:

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE:

Your signature certifies that you have read and understand the material presented within this entire application packet. It also authorizes an Inspector to enter upon the subject property without an appointment and without your attendance for the purpose of processing this application.

I hereby certify that (check one): I am the owner of record of the named property, or: that this open burning is authorized by the owner of record and/or I have been authorized to make this application as an authorized agent, and we agree to conform to all applicable codes, laws, regulations, and ordinances. All information contained within is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. No burning shall occur until the applicant has received the signed approved permit.

Applicant Signature:

Date:

SKETCH MAP

Please provide a SKETCH MAP showing the following information:

- Geographic North
- Property line boundaries; proposed burn location; distances to nearest grasslands or woodlands;
- Nearest public roads, structures and occupied dwellings and distances from proposed burn (i.e.: potential recipients that could be impacted by the burn, smoke, flying embers, brands, radiant heat, potential run-off into catch basins, streams, rivers and water bodies.)
- Other flammable or combustible materials including liquid or gaseous storage above or below ground on site or upon abutting or adjacent properties;
- Any hazards, including overhead utilities;
- Other significant information



END OF APPLICATION

PERMIT

NOTICE: This is a valid permit only when signed by the Local Open Burning Official. The permit does not relieve the permittee of any legal liability which may be incurred as a result of the fire. Failure to adhere to the conditions of the permit may result in penalties and/or other enforcement actions. It is the duty of the PERMITEE to ascertain the Air Quality Index and the Forest Fire Index prior to ignition, each day of burning, as set out below.

**THIS PERMIT IS
NOT VALID
UNDER ANY OF THE
FOLLOWING
CONDITIONS:**

- When national or state ambient air quality standards may be exceeded.
- Where a hazardous health condition might be created.
- When the Air Quality Index (AQI) is predicted to be 75 or higher anywhere in the State as indicated in the Table entitled "Predicted Daily AQI Maximums for Month/Day/Year" as found at www.ct.gov/deep/aqi
- When the Forest Fire Danger Level is high, very high, or extreme, as found at www.ct.gov/deep/forestfiredanger
- When there is an advisory from the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection of any air pollution episode.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:
APPLICABLE
TO ALL
PERMITS**

1. Open burning is limited to the activities as approved by the Open Burning Official.
2. Burning must cease if so directed by any member of the Town Fire Marshal's Office, any Peace Officer, any Officer of the Fire Department, any designated municipal official responsible for enforcing the open burning laws and ordinances or any Official of the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.
3. During the burn, all reasonable measures to assure complete combustion and reduce excessive smoke are to be taken.
4. At the completion of the burn period, all embers and coals shall be extinguished so as to prevent excessive smoke and fugitive ash emissions.
5. All reasonable safety precautions shall be taken and fire suppression/control equipment shall be immediately available.
6. This permit must be immediately available on site during the burn.
7. Burning may only be conducted between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. on a sunny or partly sunny day with wind speed between 5 and 15 mph.
8. Burning shall not create a nuisance to nearby properties.
9. Violation of the terms and/or conditions of this permit may cause the forfeiture of your ability to qualify for a permit in the future.

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE OPEN BURNING OFFICIAL

**APPLICABLE ONLY
IF CHECKED**

- Burning may be initiated only in the presence of the Open Burning Official.
- A fire crew and appropriate apparatus must be stationed at the burning site prior to ignition.
- Burning may not take place when the wind is from the _____ direction.
- Final verbal approval must also be obtained on the day of and prior to the burning by calling _____.
- Other conditions:

In evaluating this application, did the Open Burning Official find it necessary to consult with the State of Connecticut's Department of Agriculture to determine if the proposed activity is an agricultural or farm related operation and the burn supports an agricultural purpose? YES NO

This permit is **GRANTED** for burning
ONLY on the following dates:

This permit is **NOT GRANTED** for the following reasons:

Open Burning Official
Signature:

Date: