

## Be Part of the Solution!

### **Common Sense Precautions:**

- Do not burn within 50 feet of any structure.
- Do not burn near landfills.
- Do not burn near streams or sinkholes.
- Do not burn near utility lines.
- Do not burn on windy days.

### **Alternatives to Open Burning:**

#### **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**

- Donate old clothes, shoes, books, appliances, electronics, furniture and toys to charity.
- Carry a coffee mug with you instead of disposable cups.
- Bring your own cloth bag to the store.
- Many counties in Kentucky have a community recycling center that accepts some or all of these:

Newspaper	Aluminum
Plastics #1 - #7	Steel
Cardboard	Glass

#### **Compost**

- Leaves and grass clippings can be turned into food for your garden or houseplants.
- Tie four wood pallets together to make a simple compost bin.

#### **Landfill**

- Items that cannot be reused or recycled should be taken to a landfill or solid waste transfer station. Many counties have one day a month FREE of charge.

Contact your local solid waste coordinator for more information or visit [waste.ky.gov](http://waste.ky.gov) for a county-by-county listing of recycling centers.

## **Report Illegal Burning: 502-782-6592**

*Or contact one of these regional offices:*

### **Air Quality REGIONAL OFFICES**

Ashland	(606) 929-5285
Bowling Green	(270) 746-7475
Florence	(859) 525-4923
Frankfort	(502) 564-3358
Hazard	(606) 435-6022
London	(606) 330-2080
Owensboro	(270) 687-7304
Paducah	(270) 898-8468

### **OTHER CONTACTS**

#### **24-hour Environmental Emergency: (800) 928-2380**

Louisville Metro APCD	(502) 574-6000
Division of Forestry	(502) 564-4496
Fire Marshal's Office	(502) 573-0382
Kentucky Fire Commission	(800) 782-6823
Division of Waste Mgmt.	(502) 564-6716
Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	(800) 858-1549



Division for Air Quality  
300 Sower Blvd., 2nd Floor  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Phone: (502) 564-3999  
Fax: (844) 213-0333  
E-mail: [burnlaw@ky.gov](mailto:burnlaw@ky.gov)

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# Open Burning?

## Learn BEFORE You Burn!



***DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE BURNING?  
YOU COULD BE FINED UP TO \$25,000!***

*Report Illegal Burning: 502-782-6592*

**Kentucky Division for Air Quality**  
[air.ky.gov](http://air.ky.gov)



## ILLEGAL OPEN BURNING

### Home & Farm

Animal Bedding	Grass Clippings
Hay	Agricultural Plastic
Muck Piles (manure/hay)	Barns, trailers

### Construction

Asbestos Materials	Buildings
Construction Debris	Demolition Debris
Renovation Debris	Drywall
Shingles	

### Household Garbage

Animal or Vegetable Matter	Cans
Plastic	Glass
Coated paper products	

### Wood Materials

Fence Posts	Pallets
Sawdust	Wood Chips
Wood Mulch	Wood Shavings
Painted, Stained, or Pressure-Treated Wood	
All wood building materials	

### Miscellaneous

Chemical Containers	Coated Wire
Insulation	Furniture
Carpeting	Rubber
Tires	Used Oil
Waste from Industries, Businesses, Schools, Churches, and Farms	

## Report Illegal Burning!

Illegal open burning is hazardous to human health and to the environment. Report suspected cases of illegal burning by calling the open burning complaints and information line:

**502-782-6592**

## Learn *Before* You Burn

According to KY Title 401 KAR 63:005, some open burning is legal, with restrictions. But **most materials are actually illegal to burn**. The Division for Air Quality can impose **fines of up to \$25,000** per day per violation of the law. It pays to learn before you burn!

## Serious Health Risks

Today's trash is different; plastics, chemicals, and numerous other synthetic materials are far more common in the stuff we throw away. Burning this trash releases high levels of toxic pollutants such as dioxins, sulfur dioxide, lead, and mercury. Children and the elderly are especially sensitive to the air pollution from open burning.



*An example of an illegal open burn.*

## What are dioxins?

Even the most common household trash produces **dioxins** when burned. Dioxins are dangerous at extremely low levels and have been linked to cancer and other serious health problems. The EPA has shown that open burning of household garbage is the nation's largest source of non-industrial dioxin emissions.

Dioxins from open burning end up in our water and soil. They accumulate in animal tissue and enter our food supply, especially when we consume meat and dairy products.

## LEGAL OPEN BURNING

(check local laws before you burn)

### Agriculture

Plant Beds  
Tobacco Curing

### Land Management (Onsite Only)

Storm Debris (tree limbs) \*  
Natural Growth from Land Clearing \*  
Natural Land Management \*

### Construction Site Warming Fires

Contained in 55 gallon drum (maximum)  
Clean lumber only  
Only when air temperature is below 50°

### Miscellaneous

Camp Fires (cured/seasoned wood)  
Ceremonial Bonfires  
Cooking  
Uncoated Household Paper & Cardboard Products \*

\* Except in non-attainment counties during ozone season; see below.

## RESTRICTIONS

- **Fire Emergencies:** ALL open burning is prohibited when a fire emergency is declared.
- **Fire Hazard Season:** From Oct. 1 - Dec. 15 and from Feb. 15 - Apr. 30, burning within 150 feet of any woodland area is allowed only between 6 p.m. & 6 a.m.
- **"Non-Attainment" Counties:** From May-September, open burning is further restricted in the following counties: Boone, Boyd, Bullitt, Campbell, Jefferson, Kenton, Lawrence, & Oldham. These counties were previously designated "non-attainment" for ozone and/or particulate matter because their pollution levels exceeded those permitted by the Clean Air Act.

**Protect your children's health. Be a good neighbor. Follow the law. Do not burn illegally!**