

Restrictions on Open Burning/ Back Yard Fires

Spring and summer are quickly approaching and with the change of seasons come backyard cookouts, campfires, and the temptation to burn all of the fallen limbs and other yard debris accumulated during the winter months. However, The Ohio EPA and City of Clayton Ordinances have strict limitations on recreational fires and open burns. The Clayton Fire Department would like to remind you of the restrictions and encourage you to follow the guidelines listed below:

Open Burning is permitted for the following recreational purposes without notification to the Fire Department or requesting a permit from the Regional Air Pollution Control Association (RAPCA)

Bonfires, campfires and outdoor fireplace equipment, whether for cooking food for human consumption, pleasure, religious, ceremonial, warmth, recreational, or similar purposes, if the following conditions are met:

1. They are fueled with clean seasoned firewood, natural gas, or equivalent or any clean burning fuel with emissions that are equivalent to or lower than those created from the burning of seasoned firewood;
2. They are not used for waste disposal purposes; and
3. They shall have a total fuel area of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height.



There are other exceptions which are permissible and may be viewed by visiting the Clayton website at www.clayton.oh.us, choose ordinance under the government tab and select Fire Prevention. You may also visit www.rapca.org for guidance and permits.

If an open burn is reported, which does not meet the recreational burn guidelines or a permit was not obtained through RAPCA, the fire department will extinguish the fire and violators are subject to citations and fines.

No burning is allowed with or without a permit during high winds, ozone action days or other alerts issued by RAPCA.

We would also encourage all of our Clayton residents to dispose of yard waste during the Sweep Clayton Clean days and/or follow the standards of bundling limbs and disposing of other yard waste in your weekly trash removal.

If you are having difficulty in interpreting the ordinance, completing an EPA burn permit application or would like any related assistance, please contact the Clayton Fire Department at 836-2531.