

Ordinance No96-7
Fires and Open Burning Ordinance

SECTION 1 OPEN BURNING

This ordinance shall apply to all persons kindling or maintaining any open burning, or authorizing the kindling or maintaining of open burning, within the corporate limits of the Town of LaFayette. All persons kindling or maintaining any open burning shall take precautions to have the fire under control at all times. No fire or substantial amount of glowing embers shall be left unattended.

SECTION 2 AUTHORIZED HOURS FOR BURNING

Burning shall be permitted between the hours of 3:30 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. Monday through Friday; and from 7:00 a.m. through 11:59 p.m. on Saturday. There shall be no open burning allowed on Sunday or holidays.

SECTION 3 PROHIBITIONS ON BURNING

Outdoor burning shall be prohibited when local circumstances make the fire irritating, 'noxious, or potentially hazardous. Local circumstances include, but are not limited to thermal inversions, wind direction and/or velocity, ozone alerts, very dry conditions, or the issuance of a "Red Flag Day" by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Local circumstances shall be determined by the Chief of the Chippewa Fire Protection District or his/her designee.

SECTION 4 AUTHORIZED MATERIALS FOR BURNING

Authorized materials for burning shall be limited to the following: Dried or dead natural plants, trees, crops, ground cover, or cuttings of the same; unpainted, unsealed, untreated lumber; clean, dry paper and paper products; dry, uncoated natural fabrics. Open burning of all other materials, products, and substances is prohibited unless a written permit is obtained from the Chippewa Fire Protection District and/or other governing agencies.

SECTION 5 PROHIBITED LOCATIONS FOR BURNING

No person shall burn any material on the asphalt portion of any Town or County roadway, or within 250-feet of any commercial building.

This Ordinance was approved October 7 1996

BURN BARRELS:

UNHEALTHY, UNNECESSARY, UNNEIGHBORLY AND USUALLY USED ILLEGALLY

Unhealthy - Smoke from burning garbage contains toxic compounds, often including dioxin, furans and other carcinogens. The ash, which some folks place on their garden, may contain heavy metals such as lead and cadmium.

Unnecessary - If you have a burn barrel, take a look at what you're burning. Most paper and cardboard can and should be recycled. Today, waste collection service is available nearly everywhere, and the collection businesses offer wheeled carts and recycling containers for convenient, economical, end-of-driveway service.

Unneighborly - You probably don't enjoy the stink of burning garbage, and neither does your neighbor. Think about how your decision to burn garbage affects others.

Usually Used Illegally - Open burning of household solid wastes, whether or not in a burn barrel, is prohibited by law, with limited exceptions. This prohibition includes all plastic materials, kitchen wastes, dirty or wet paper wastes, treated or painted wood, furniture, and demolition material - or any other material that creates a nuisance. The exceptions (for households only - not businesses) include (if not prohibited by local ordinance) lawn and garden debris, small quantities of clean, untreated, unpainted wood and clean paper waste that is not recyclable.

Outdoor fires for cooking, or for "warming up" are okay and do not require any special approvals unless environmental conditions pose a great risk for forest fires.