



CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Evansville Climate Collaborative (ECC)

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RECREATIONAL FIRE RULES

All citizens are expected to comply with local and state open burning regulations to protect public health and safety.

AUTHORITY

- The Evansville Climate Collaborative (ECC) enforces Evansville Municipal Code 16.05.200 governing open burning within the City of Evansville in Vanderburgh County, Indiana. [City of Evansville open burning rules](#).
- The Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management (IDEM) enforces 326 Indiana Administrative Code 4-1 governing open burning throughout Indiana, including in Evansville. [State of Indiana open burning rules](#). Permit forms: [IDEM open burn permit forms](#)

REGULATIONS (summarized per EMC 16.05.200 & 326 IAC 4-1)

1. Recreational fires must comply with state and local open burning regulations.
2. Recreational fires within ECC jurisdiction must have advance approval from the ECC on an annual basis, but do not require IDEM approval. Fires contained in a fire-safe device such as an outdoor grill, built-in patio fireplace, patio fire pit, or Chiminea ® are not regulated nor require advance approval.
3. Annual approval can be granted over the phone M-F, 8am -4 pm, and the written permit can be issued via email. There is no fee.
4. Permit is valid only for the location listed on the permit.
5. Fires may be conducted ONLY under favorable weather conditions. Open burning shall NOT be conducted during high winds, a temperature inversion, air quality alert day, or burn ban. Grill or patio fires may also be prohibited during burn bans for extreme environmental conditions.
6. The fire must be extinguished if it creates an air pollution problem, a threat to public health, a nuisance, or a safety hazard.
7. Recreational fires may not exceed (3' x 2') in size. Larger fires require an Open Burn Waiver in writing from ECC.
8. ONLY clean wood or charcoal may be burned.
9. The fire shall not be used for disposal or salvage purposes. waste generated as a result of a routine business operation
10. Burn barrels are prohibited within city limits.
11. Only one burning pile is allowed at a time.
12. The fire shall not be located within 100 feet of any fuel storage area or pipeline.
13. Fires shall not be ignited with fuel, oil, tires, or any other petroleum product or smoke-producing material.
14. Fires must be attended at all times until completely extinguished.
15. Adequate fire suppression equipment shall be on-site at all times during burning.

DEFINITIONS

Open Burning - burning of material where the resulting air contaminants are emitted directly into the air without first passing through a stack or chimney.

Recreational Fire - a small fire on the ground (open burning) conducted for recreation or ceremony, maintained at less than 3' wide x 2' high.

Burn ONLY

- clean, natural wood
- clean, untreated wood products
- charcoal

Burning PROHIBITED:

- poison ivy or sumac, allergenic materials
- root balls, stumps, leaves
- asbestos-containing materials
- material treated with paint, stains, preservatives, glue, laminate, or pesticides
- furniture, carpet, TV's, appliances, tires
- paper, plastic, metal or other refuse

Failure to comply with all open burning regulations may result in invalidation of permit, dispatch of emergency services, and legal enforcement.