



Town of Concord

22 Monument Square, PO Box 535
Concord, Massachusetts 01742
Phone: (978)-318-3000

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Sean Dugan, Public Information Officer
sdugan@concordma.gov
(978) 318-3052

CHANGES TO OPEN BURNING PERMITS IN 2016

CONCORD, MA—In 2016, Open Burning Season for Concord residents will run from January 15-April 30. Beginning this year, the Concord Fire Department will be charging residents a fee of \$20 to obtain an Open Burning Permit. The Open Burning Permit fee will help to defray operation costs, such as website maintenance related to online permit acquisition and fee payment, cost associated with follow up to Open Burning sites, “smoke in the area” investigations and the potential of having to call off-duty fire fighters to assist with out of control permit fires.

Obtaining a burning permit and daily activation of the permit may be done online. There is a link to the permit site at www.concordma.gov/fire.

“The Open Burning Season is an important and enjoyable activity for many Concord residents; the \$20.00 fee is the Concord Fire Department’s attempt to keep the cost to the public reasonable while still off-setting costs incurred” said Concord Fire Chief Mark Cotreau.

Burning, when allowed, may be conducted between 10:00a.m. and 4:00p.m. The Open Burning Permit allows the holder to activate and use their permit on as many days as they like as long as burning is allowed on that day. The determination whether burning is allowed or not, is typically made by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP), and is based on atmospheric conditions. There are times that the Fire Department may restrict burning due to available resources to fight a fire, should one get out of control.

Open Burning is governed by Massachusetts Fire Code 527CMR1 Section 10.11 and regulation put into effect by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

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