

FAQs – BURNING PERMITS IN ORONO

When do I need an open burning permit?

Any open burning, excluding recreational fires, requires a permit. Burning permits may be issued for large and small brush disposal fires, and prairie management burns. There is no charge for permits for a limited number of burns per year. A site inspection is required by City staff before any burning permits are issued.

What about a bonfire?

We all enjoy bonfires - a chance to sit out in the yard, roast a few marshmallows and visit with friends and family. Bonfires do not require a permit but, must meet the following restrictions:

- Minimum 50' from buildings
- Minimum 25' from lot lines
- 3' Maximum diameter, 3' Maximum height

What else do I need to know about open burning and recreational fires?

- Burn only wood/logs; no brush, twigs, leaves or household garbage.
- Fires must be under immediate supervision of resident or authorized representative.
- Do not use combustible or flammable liquids to start the fire.
- Winds cannot exceed 15 mph when having a fire.
- Fires may only be conducted between 7 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- An adequate water supply for fire suppression purposes must be provided.
- Be considerate of neighbors. Smoke can be a nuisance and may aggravate health problems and cause pollution.

When else can I burn without a permit?

- A fire contained in a charcoal grill, camp stove, or other device designed for the purpose of cooking or heating does not require a permit.

Permit application forms describe all the open burning requirements and are available at City Hall or from the City website at www.ci.orono.mn.us. For additional questions regarding the City's burning policy, contact City Hall at 952-249-4600.