

FIRE PREVENTION

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Let's have Fun with Fire Safety Activity Booklet

How To make a Home Fire escape Plan

Fire pups connect the dots activity

Earth Smarts Fire Prevention Activity

Sparky Fire-Safe Crossword Puzzle

Sparky's Connect the Dots

Portable Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are designed to put out small, contained fires. They are not to be used on large or spreading fires. Having a small portable fire extinguisher in your home can increase home fire safety and sometimes lower your insurance rates.

Fire extinguishers are rated by the size and the type of fire they would be able to extinguish.

- Type A – Fires involving ordinary combustibles, such as paper, wood, cloth, rubber or plastics.
- Type B – Fires involving flammable liquids, gasoline, grease, oils and some paints.
- Type C – Fire involving energized electrical equipment.

A Multi-Purpose - Type ABC dry chemical extinguisher is a good type to have in your home.

Before using a fire extinguisher, you should make sure everyone in the home has been alerted and is leaving the building, and make sure you call the fire department before attempting to extinguish a fire. You can ask the following questions to help you determine if **YOU** should attempt to extinguish a fire.

1. Is the fire small and contained?
2. Do I have the proper type of extinguisher for the type of fire?
3. Is the area free from any other hazards?
4. Can I safely escape if my extinguishing effort is not effective?
5. Am I physically and mentally able to a fire extinguisher?

If you answer, “YES” to the above questions, you should be able to safely attempt to put out the fire with an extinguisher.

Remember the term **P.A.S.S.** when using a fire extinguisher.

- **P – Pull the safety pin from the top of the extinguisher.**
- **A – Aim the nozzle at the base of the fire.**
- **S – Squeeze the trigger handle.**
- **S – Sweep the nozzle side to side at the base of the fire until the fire goes out.**

Candle Safety

Candle use is very popular. With the increase of use, comes an increase of risk for fire. Here are some tips to keep your use of candles safe.

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, which will not tip over easily. They should be large enough to collect dripping wax and made of a material that will not burn.
- Place candles on a sturdy, uncluttered surface. Keep away from edges where they could be knocked over by children or pets.
- Keep candle wicks trimmed to ¼-inch.
- Keep combustible materials at least one foot away and keep candles away from flammable liquids.
- **NEVER** leave a burning candle unattended. Extinguish all candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Use of candles in bedrooms is discouraged. Almost half of all candle fires occur in bedrooms.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas that kills more than 250 people in the United States each year. You cannot taste, smell, see, or hear it. Because of these properties it is nicknamed the “**silent killer**”. CO is produced by incomplete combustion. Usually, CO in homes is produced by malfunctioning fuel-burning appliances such as furnaces, stoves or water heaters. It can also be caused by inadequate ventilation of these appliances. Prevention is the best step in avoiding CO poisoning. Have all of your fuel-burning appliances inspected regularly. Underwriter Laboratories recommends at least once a year.

When selecting a CO detector, select one that is listed as a “single station carbon monoxide detector.” These detectors will detect elevated levels of carbon monoxide and sound an audible alarm

Detector Installation

Install near sleeping areas and near fuel-burning appliances.

Follow the installation instructions that the manufacture recommends.

- Proper installation is an important factor for optimum performance.
- Maintain your detector in accordance to manufacture’s requirements.

If your CO detector activates you should follow the recommended procedure that is included in your detector’s use and instruction booklet. Normally, you should contact your fuel supplier (Gas Company) and a fuel-burning appliance maintenance company.

If any occupants are experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning, the fire department should be contacted for emergency medical care. Symptoms include nausea, fatigue, headaches, confusion and breathing difficulty.

Before You Light It... Know Ohio's Open Burning Regulations

Open burning is any time you light an outdoor fire without a chimney or stack.

When burning refuse in burn barrels or open piles, the potential cost to your health, your home, your neighbors and your environment far exceeds the price of adequate collection services.

Protect yourself, your neighbors and your wallet by knowing the rules—what you can burn and where.

What You Can Do Instead of Open Burning

- Reduce the amount of waste you generate.
- Reuse items in another way.
- Recycle - Contact your waste disposal provider about curb-side pickup or drop-off locations for bulky or hazardous items.
- Compost yard trimmings and food scraps, while creating a natural, free fertilizer.



For a complete copy of Ohio's open burning regulations, contact:

Ohio EPA
Division of Air Pollution Control
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
(614) 644-2270

epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning

Before You Light It... Know Ohio's Open Burning Regulations

Why is open burning a problem?

Open burning can release many kinds of toxic fumes. Leaves and plant materials send aloft millions of spores when they catch fire, causing many people with allergies to have difficulty breathing.

The pollutants released by open burning also make it more difficult to meet health-based air quality standards, especially in or near large cities. The gases released by open burning can also corrode metal siding and damage paint on buildings.

What open burning is never allowed?

Under Ohio law, these materials may not be burned anywhere in the state at any time:

- garbage—any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking or consuming food;
- materials containing rubber, grease and asphalt or made from petroleum, such as tires, cars and auto parts, plastics or plastic-coated wire; and
- dead animals—unless approved for control of disease by a governing agency.

Other restrictions:

- Open burning is not allowed when air pollution warnings, alerts or emergencies are in effect.
- Fires cannot obscure visibility for roadways, railroad tracks or air fields.
- No wastes generated off the premises may be burned. For example, a tree trimming contractor may not haul branches and limbs to another site to burn.

Does Ohio EPA ever allow exceptions to the rules?

Under certain circumstances, yes. However, to burn a prohibited material or set a fire in a restricted area, you must receive written permission from Ohio EPA before you begin burning. This may take two weeks.

Can a community regulate open burning?

Yes. However, local ordinances cannot be less strict than the state law.

What happens if I'm caught illegally open burning?

Ohio EPA has the authority to enforce the state's open burning laws. Violations can result in substantial penalties. If you have any questions, or would like to report a suspected open burning incident, contact your Ohio EPA district office or your local air pollution control agency. See the map in this brochure for the agency to contact in your area.

Health Concerns


Burning household waste produces many toxic chemicals and is one of the largest known sources of dioxin in the nation. Other air pollutants from open burning include particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, lead and mercury.


These pollutants have been linked to several health problems, including asthma, respiratory illnesses, nervous system damage, kidney and liver damage, and reproductive or developmental disorders.

What can I burn? The following open fires are **allowed** in Ohio


Local Air Pollution Control Agencies


 Akron Regional Air Quality Management District
(800) 589-2480
araqmd.org


 Canton Division of Air Pollution Control
(330) 489-3385
cantonhealth.org/apc/


 Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency
(800) 889-0474
southwestohioair.org

 Regional Air Pollution Control Agency
(800) 458-2115
rapca.org

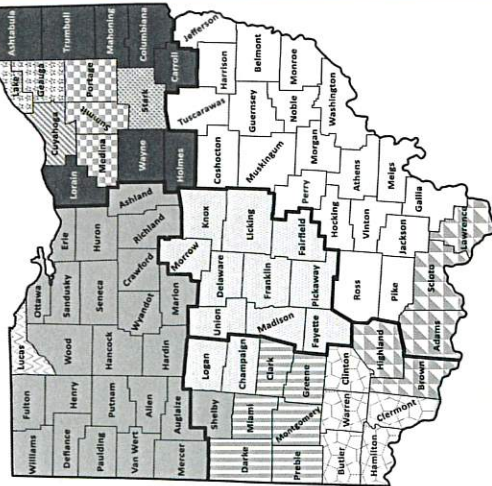
 Lake County Air Pollution Control
(440) 350-2543
lcpd.org/?page_id=3687

 Plymouth Air Pollution Control
(740) 353-5156
plymouthoh.org/health/air-division/





 Toledo Division of Environmental Services
(419) 936-3015
toledo.oh.gov/services/public-utilities/environmental-services/air/

 Cleveland Division of Air Quality
(216) 564-2297
clevelandhealth.org/network/air_quality/air_quality.php

The Division of Air Pollution Control's jurisdictional boundaries for district offices and local air agencies are not the same as Ohio EPA's standard district boundaries. Standard district boundaries, indicated by the dark lines, are for reference only.



Ohio EPA District Offices

-  **CDO** Central District Office
(800) 686-2330* (614) 728-3778
-  **NEDO** Northeast District Office
(800) 686-6330* (330) 963-1200
-  **NWDO** Northwest District Office
(800) 686-6930* (419) 352-8461
-  **SEDO** Southeast District Office
(800) 686-7330* (740) 385-8501

*Toll-free numbers are for calls within Ohio.

TYPE OF FIRE	INSIDE A VILLAGE OR CITY* if generated on property	OUTSIDE A VILLAGE OR CITY* if generated on property
Barbeques, campfires cookouts	Wood stack no larger than 2 ft. high x 3 ft. wide. Use clean, seasoned firewood or equivalent.	Wood stack no larger than 2 ft. high x 3 ft. wide. Use clean, seasoned firewood or equivalent.
Agricultural waste	Agricultural wastes and plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and material from crop or livestock production. This includes fence posts and scrap lumber, but does not include buildings, land clearing waste, dead animals or animal waste. Fire must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited building. Fire must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited building. Provide notification to Ohio EPA if pile greater than 20 ft. wide x 10 ft. high (4,000 cubic feet). This may take two weeks.	Agricultural wastes and plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and material from crop or livestock production. This includes fence posts and scrap lumber, but does not include buildings, land clearing waste, dead animals or animal waste. Fire must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited building. Provide notification to Ohio EPA if pile greater than 20 ft. wide x 10 ft. high (4,000 cubic feet). This may take two weeks.
Land-clearing waste	Not permitted in city limits.	Plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and crop residues. With prior written permission from Ohio EPA. This may take two weeks.
Residential waste	Not permitted in city limits.	Plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and crop residues. Also wastes such as wood or paper products that are generated by one-, two-, or three-family residences. Fire must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited building. Provide notification to Ohio EPA if pile greater than 10 ft. x 10 ft. x 10 ft. No notification required.
Ceremonial fires	Wood stack no larger than 5 ft. high x 5 ft. wide. Duration no longer than three hours. Use clean, seasoned firewood or equivalent. Must notify Ohio EPA in advance.	Wood stack no larger than 5 ft. high x 5 ft. wide. Duration no longer than three hours. No notification required.
Occupational fires: welding torches, heating tar, heating for warmth of outdoor workers and strikers	Use clean seasoned firewood. For example, a heating fire contained in a 55-gallon drum.	Use clean seasoned firewood. For example, a heating fire contained in a 55-gallon drum.
Firefighter training, Explosive material disposal	With prior written permission from Ohio EPA. This may take two weeks.	With prior written permission from Ohio EPA. This may take two weeks.
Horticultural, silvicultural, prairie management, range or wildlife management practices	With prior notification to Ohio EPA. Notification required at least ten days prior to fire.	With prior notification to Ohio EPA. Notification required at least ten days prior to fire.
Disease or pest control	Local health department, Ohio Department of Agriculture or U.S. Department of Agriculture verifies to Ohio EPA that open burning is the only appropriate control method and must notify Ohio EPA in advance.	Local health department, Ohio Department of Agriculture or U.S. Department of Agriculture verifies to Ohio EPA that open burning is the only appropriate control method.

* villages and cities are considered "restricted areas," which include:

- within the boundaries of any municipal corporation;
- within corporation limits and a 1,000-foot zone outside any municipal corporation having a population of 1,000 to 10,000; and
- within corporation limits and a one-mile zone outside any municipal corporation with a population of more than 10,000.

Call your local municipality for corporation boundaries.