

# ACHD Open Burning Regulation

## FACT SHEET

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- Open burning may only be conducted in accordance with ACHD Article XXI §2105.50 “Open Burning” (full text: <http://www.achd.net/air/pubs/pdf/Article21.pdf>) Municipal ordinances may only be equal to or more stringent than ACHD regulations.
- No person shall conduct, or allow to be conducted, the open burning of any material, except where the Department has issued an open burning permit, or where the open burning is conducted in accordance to Article XXI §2105.50 and is done in a manner which contributes a negligible amount of air contaminants.
- No material other than clean wood, propane, or natural gas may be open burned EXCEPT for:
  - Commercially available fire logs, paraffin logs, or wood pellets;
  - Paper or commercial smokeless fire starters in order to start a fire;
  - Charcoal for the preparation of food only.
- Fires may be no larger than 3’ wide by 3’ long by 2’ high.
- Fires must be at least 15 feet from the nearest neighbor’s dwelling or inhabited area, including:
  - Property line
  - Roadway
  - Sidewalk
  - Public access area
- Wood burning activities are prohibited on Air Quality Action days, with the exception of burning for the commercial preparation of food
  - Subscribe to receive email, text, or smart phone app notifications of burn ban days at [www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts)
- Burning may be prohibited or reduced if it is considered a nuisance, based on the following criteria:
  - The severity of the amount of air pollutants;
  - The duration or frequency of open burning;
  - The topography of the surroundings;
  - The meteorological conditions.
- Open burning permits are available for ceremonies fostering of agriculture, abatement of a public health hazard, and firefighting instruction; however, all permitted open burning is prohibited on Air Quality Action Days.
  - Contact ACHD at (412) 578-7963 for more information