



BENSENVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #2

500 S. York Road, Bensenville IL 60106
Non-Emergency (630) 350-3441 • Fax (630) 350-3421

Open Burning of Landscape Waste in Unincorporated DuPage County

What's not allowed?

The burning, of any garbage, debris, refuse, landscape waste in an open fire.

What are the exceptions?

- Fire fighter training, extinguisher training; Use of an air curtain destructor; Prairie & ecological landscape burns; Disposal of disaster debris as authorized by State, County or local authorities.
- "Recreational fires" are defined as an outdoor open fire for entertainment, leisure or cooking purposes, and which does not require a governmental permit. Recreational fires must be outdoors, but in all instances shall comply with the following:
 1. Fuel for a Recreational fire shall be limited to the burning of clean, seasoned, dry firewood. For the purpose of this Section, "clean, dry firewood" shall include dried logs and dried branches without leaves or greenery. "Firewood" shall not include grass, brush, roots, or other similar vegetation, construction materials, treated woods, plywood or pressure-treated wood.
 2. Recreational fires shall not use any fuel that produce excessive smoke, cinders or other emissions characteristic of non-seasoned wood.
 3. A Recreational fire shall not be used to dispose of any garbage, debris, refuse or waste (including landscape waste).
 4. Recreational fires shall be controlled burns. For the purpose of this Section, "controlled burn" or "controlled burning" shall mean a fire that is physically contained by fire pit, grill or other recognized containment method, and which is under constant, direct adult supervision at all time a flames or glowing embers are visibly present.

What are the penalties?

A person shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), pursuant to 55 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/5-1113. In addition to any fine imposed under this article, the court may order that the person convicted of such a violation remove and properly dispose of any illegally disposed yard waste, may employ special bailiffs to supervise such removal and disposal, and may tax the costs of such supervision as costs against the person so convicted.

Additional Resources:

- DuPage County Code [Section 30-17](#) and [30-26](#)
- [U.S. EPA Health Impacts Burning](#)
- [U.S. EPA https://www.epa.gov/burnwise](https://www.epa.gov/burnwise)
- [Illinois EPA](#)