

Chattanooga-Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau

BURNING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF CHATTANOOGA

Burning is an outdoor fire that vents smoke and other products of combustion directly into the air. Smoke from outdoor burning fills our air with fine particles that can lodge deep in our lungs and make breathing difficult. Burning is the number one complaint received by the Bureau. Many times, the person calling is experiencing breathing problems because a neighbor is burning.

ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING

The City of Chattanooga discourages burning within its corporate limits. Below are some alternatives to burning:

Backyard Composting. One solution to eliminating already crowded landfills is composting. Composting is an excellent way to extend the lives of landfills, reduce air pollution and provide a much needed product for your landscaping projects--rich soil and mulch.

Pick-Up Service. The Chattanooga Public Works Department provides an on-call pick-up service, to homeowners, of yard waste (brush, limbs, leaves, and twigs). Brush and leaves may be bagged or raked/stacked at the curb. For more information call 311 or check the Public Works (City Wide Services) section of the City of Chattanooga's web page at www.chattanooga.gov.

Wood Waste Recycling Center. The center is located at 3925 North Hawthorne Street in East Chattanooga. The facility accepts logs, brush and non-construction wood waste and uses the material to make mulch. Residents of Chattanooga may dispose of brush and wood waste at no charge. Commercial dumping of brush and wood waste is accepted for a charge. Mulch and finished compost is available at no charge to city residents. For more information call 311 or check the City of Chattanooga's web page at www.chattanooga.gov.

Landfill and Refuse Drop Off. The City Landfill is located at 9327 Birchwood Pike in Harrison. Residents of Chattanooga may also drop off brush, leaves and grass clippings at the following locations: 1321 Airport Road, 4500 North Access Road, and 1400 West 57th Street. For more information call 311 or check the City of Chattanooga's web page www.chattanooga.gov.

CONDITIONS TO OBTAIN A BURNING PERMIT

Burning in the City will be allowed only if the following conditions are met and the Bureau Director has issued a Burning Permit:

1. The material must not be accessible for pickup service by the City.
2. There must be no other reasonable method of disposal.
3. An application must be submitted to the Director accompanied by a fifty dollar (\$50.00) inspection fee. This fee is non-refundable even if the permit cannot be issued.
4. The burning must not present an obvious health hazard or nuisance to others.
5. Only untreated wood and vegetation can be burned.

Burning permits cannot be issued until the permit application has been reviewed by Bureau personnel and an on-site inspection is made by the Fire Marshall, where appropriate, and Air Pollution Control personnel at the convenience of such inspectors. If a permit is issued, the applicant must sign and abide by the conditions listed on the permit. Non-compliance with any of the conditions is a violation of the law, and is punishable by fine or penalty up to \$25,000 per day. All permits expire on April 30. Burning is not allowed between May 1 and September 30.

The Bureau Investigator, John Schultz, will answer questions concerning burning. You may reach him at 643-5988.

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**CITY BURNING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR LESS THAN TWO ACRES
(Chattanooga, Collegedale, East Ridge, Ridgeseide, or Red Bank)**

An inspection is required before the permit will be issued. Please allow 5 to 7 working days for your inspection.

THIS IS NOT A BURNING PERMIT

	APPLICANT	INDIVIDUAL OR COMPANY CONDUCTING THE BURNING (IF DIFFERENT FROM APPLICANT)
Name		
Address		
City/State/Zip		
Daytime Phone Area Code and Number	()	()
Nighttime Phone Area Code and Number	()	()
Address of burning site (If you are using a lot number, a street name must be provided)		
Type of material you are requesting to burn		
Amount of material you are requesting to burn (Examples: Number of pick-up truck loads, cubic feet, brush cleared from ½ acre or limbs that fall during the year)		
Give reasons, which in your opinion, justify disposal by burning rather than other methods creating less pollution		

Some reasons why your application may not be approved for a burning permit:

1. If the material you are requesting to burn is other than vegetation and/or untreated, non-manufactured wood materials.
2. If the material can be practically put at the street for the city to pick-up.
3. Generally if you are within 100 feet of the nearest residence or commercial business (other than the one at the burn site), within 500 feet of a medical facility, school, daycare, state or federal highway or airport.
4. If the amount cleared, or to be cleared within 12 months, is more than two acres in size.
5. If the material you are requesting to burn was removed from a location different from the burn site.

A \$50.00 non-refundable application fee must accompany this application. Make checks payable to the Air Pollution Control Bureau. There will be a \$30.00 fee for all returned checks. Incomplete applications will be returned. Faxed applications will not be accepted. ALL PERMITS EXPIRE ON APRIL 30, 2010.

Signature

Date

Do Not Write Below This Line

Date of Inspection:	By:	Approved or Denied	Comments:
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Amount Paid:	Cash or Check #:	Permit Number:
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