

Chepachet Fire Department
Burning Permit
Rules and Regulations

Category I Fire is a camp or cooking fire no larger than 2 feet in diameter contained in a fire resistive ring at least 10 inches high with a suitable sand or gravel base. This would include commercially made fire pits, chimineas and fire places. The area must be cleared a minimum of 10 feet around the fire of combustible/burnable material and be at least 25 feet from any structure. These fires may be kindled any time without a permit, conditions permitting*. However, from March 15th through May 15th, burning must occur before 10:00 am or after 5:00 pm. Burning between the hours of 10:00 am and 5:00 pm during this time requires a permit. Flames shall be kept to knee height (approximately 2 feet).

Category II Fire is a camp or cooking fire no greater than 4 feet in diameter contained in a fire resistive ring at least 10 inches high with a suitable sand or gravel base. The area must be cleared to a minimum of 10 feet around the fire of combustible/burnable material and be at least 50 ft. from any structure. These fires may be kindled before 10:00 am and after 5:00 pm without a permit, conditions permitting*. However, from March 15th through May 15th a burning permit is required. Flames shall be kept to knee height (approximately 2 feet).

Category III Fire is any fire not contained in a fire resistive ring such as a brush pile. These fires require a permit at all times of the year even if there is snow on the ground or it is actively raining. These burn piles must be inspected by fire department personnel prior to a permit being issued. Permits will not be issued from March 15th to May 15th unless the ground is snow covered or it is actively raining. These fires must be extinguished by nightfall.

CONDITIONS PERMITTING:

- Permittee must be 18 years of age.
- All fires shall be constantly attended by an adult until the fire is completely extinguished.
- Permits will be issued on the day of the burn only and are good just for that day.
- Permits will be issued to residential home owners and renters only. Renters must have written permission from the home owner.
- Permittee must have proper suppression equipment to maintain control of the fire at all times.
- Permits will not be issued for commercial, industrial or land clearing purposes. Clearing land to build a house is considered commercial and will require brush to be trucked away or chipped.
- Wind not exceeding 10 miles per hour.
- Only clean wood may be burned and must not exceed 5 inches in diameter.
- Leaves and pine needles are banned from burning due to the numerous complaints from residents about smoke. Leaves and pine needles are accepted at the Gloucester Transfer Station free of charge.
- No stumps, garbage, tires, construction debris and the like may be burned.
- Should neighbors complain about smoke entering their home/property, you will be directed to extinguish the fire.
- Permits will not be issued on high fire danger days or "Red Flag" days

- Burning may be banned at any time due to dry conditions.
- Should a **“RED FLAG WARNING”** be issued by The Rhode Island Division of Forestry or the National Weather Service, all burning activities are suspended until such warning is lifted.