

free number, or check the web site, you can be issued a citation for burning without a permit. Furthermore, if your fire escapes and starts a wildfire, you will be liable for any suppression costs as well as any damages the fire causes.

What Should I do with My Written Permit?

It is important that you keep a copy of your signed Annual Burning Permit form #4300-125 to show to any law enforcement personnel if requested at any time while you are burning. Be sure to read and follow all the restrictions on both sides of your permit.

What if the Toll-free Number and Web Site Are Not Working?

One of the goals of this new issuance system is to increase customer convenience for obtaining a burning permit and the daily fire restrictions. Since this system requires the use of technology to relay information, technical problems may occur. Phone lines and web site access will always be available, but if those options are not accessible, you must contact your local DNR Ranger Station or Service Center to check on outdoor burning restrictions for the day. **Do not burn unless you can determine what the burning restrictions are in place for the day you wish to burn.**

How Do I Access My County Burn Restrictions on the Internet or Phone?

After 11:00 a.m. on the day you wish to burn, visit the web at dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire, click on "View Burning Permit Restrictions." Move your cursor over the county where you wish to burn. Click on that county and the burning permit information will be displayed.

Or ... After 11:00 a.m. on the day you wish to burn, call toll-free at **1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876)**, you will have two options to check the county restrictions over the phone:

1. Enter the two-digit county code listed (see list of Touch Tone County Codes).
2. Enter the first four letters of the name of the county.

Touch Tone County Codes

County	Code	Spell	County	Code	Spell
Adams	01	2326	Marathon	37	6272
Ashland	02	2745	Marquette	38	6274
Barron	03	2272	Menominee	40	6366
Bayfield	04	2293	Milwaukee*	41	6492
Brown*	05	2769	Monroe	42	6667
Buffalo*	06	2833	Oconto	43	6266
Burnett	07	2876	Oneida	44	6634
Calumet*	08	2258	Outagamie*	45	6882
Chippewa	09	2447	Ozaukee*	46	6928
Clark	10	2527	Pequin*	47	7374
Columbia	11	2658	Pierce*	48	7437
Crawford	12	2729	Polk	49	7655
Dane	13	3263	Portage	50	7678
Dodge*	14	3634	Price	51	7742
Door*	15	3667	Racine*	52	7224
Douglas	16	3684	Richland	53	7424
Dunn*	17	3866	Rock	54	7625
Eau Claire	18	3282	Rusk	55	7875
Florence	19	3567	St. Croix*	56	7246
Fond du Lac*20	20	3663	Sauk	57	7285
Forest	21	3673	Sawyer	58	7299
Grant	22	4726	Shawano	59	7429
Green*	23	4733	Sheboygan*	60	7432
Green Lake	24	4733	Taylor	61	8295
Iowa	25	4692	Trempealeau*62	62	8736
Iron	26	4766	Vernon*	63	8376
Jackson	27	5225	Vilas	64	8152
Jefferson*	28	5333	Walworth*	65	9259
Juneau	29	5863	Washington*	66	9274
Kenosha	30	5366	Waukesha*	68	9285
Kewaunee*	31	5392	Waupaca	69	9287
LaCrosse*	32	5227	Waushara	70	9287
Lafayette*	33	5232	Winnebago*	71	9466
Langlade	34	5264	Wood	72	9663
Lincoln	35	5426			
Manitowoc*	36	6264			

* Indicates a county where the DNR does not set burning permit requirements.

Remember, only you can prevent wildfires by following your daily permit restrictions.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audio tape etc.) upon request. Please call 608/267-7494 for more information.



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After you've obtained your written annual burning permit, you must check the internet or call the hotline for daily burning restrictions after 11:00 a.m. on the day you wish to burn.

**dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire
1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876)**

**Burning Permits
It's Your Responsibility!**



Why Does the DNR Issue Burning Permits?

Every year hundreds of wildfires in Wisconsin are started because of careless outdoor burning. Burning permits, if used appropriately, are an important tool in wildfire prevention. The goal of burning permit issuance is to provide the public with an efficiently administered system that allows the public to burn legal materials in the outdoors and, more importantly, is effective in protecting lives, property, and natural resources from the damages of unwanted wildfires.

Why is There a Change in Permit Issuance?

The old burning permit system had been in place in Wisconsin for nearly 100 years, yet careless outdoor burning continues to be the leading cause of forest fires in Wisconsin. Three to five day burning permits have traditionally been required for outdoor burning in DNR protection areas. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry is moving towards a call-in and web-based system for the issuance of burning permits.

This new system was successfully used in select counties and because of that success, is being expanded statewide to all areas of the state where DNR burning permits are required. The system will be further evaluated to determine whether it will become the new system used for DNR burning permit issuance in areas of Wisconsin where the DNR has forest fire protection responsibilities.

Goals of this new burning permit system:

- ➔ Improve the existing system by increasing convenience of obtaining a one-time annual written burning permit for individuals wishing to conduct outdoor burning with daily verification via internet or phone.
- ➔ Allow the DNR to make burning permit decisions daily, concentrating outdoor burning during periods of lower forest fire danger to reduce the number of wildfires started by outdoor burning since weather conditions change rapidly.

How is this Permit System Different?

In the past, individuals had to obtain one burning permit for barrel burning and additional burning permits for burn piles. Oftentimes these additional permits were only good for 3 or 5 days, requiring follow-up visits to DNR offices or Emergency Fire Wardens.

With the new system, only one written burning permit is required and this permit is valid in any area covered by DNR Protection. Anyone who wishes to burn is required to obtain this annual permit (permits are non-transferable).

Before you burn, you will need to:

- ➔ Obtain the written annual permit from your local Emergency Fire Warden or DNR Office
- ➔ Check the restrictions daily after 11:00 a.m. over the internet or phone
- ➔ Read your permit and follow your daily burn restrictions

What do I Need a Permit for?

DNR burning permits are issued for outdoor burning on the ground and in a barrel any time the ground is not completely snow-covered. Cooking, warming or campfires do not require a burning permit and are allowed any time except during Emergency Burning Restrictions. This exemption for permits only applies to fires solely used for this purpose. Burning of debris in a fire ring is not considered a campfire and therefore you would need a permit for those purposes.

Who Regulates Burning Where I Burn?

It is your responsibility to know where you are burning and what restrictions apply. Wisconsin DNR Annual Burning Permit form #4300-125 only applies within DNR Protection Areas outside of incorporated cities and villages. Remember, you must also comply with local ordinances which may be more restrictive than state law. Your local fire department, town chairperson, or local municipal official may require a second burning permit or notification before you burn. If you wish to burn in an area where DNR permits are not required, check with your local fire department, town chairperson or local municipal official to determine the local burn restrictions. If your burn will produce

significant smoke or flame, please notify your local County Sheriff's Office or fire department to prevent unnecessary emergency responses.

I Have My Written Permit, so Can I Burn Today?

Information regarding burning restrictions for that day will be updated by 11:00 a.m. daily. Prior to actually burning your burn pile or in your burn barrel, you must call 1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) or access the DNR web site dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire and click on "View Burning Permit Restrictions" to determine if burning is being allowed that day in your particular area. You will need to know what county you want to burn in, since restrictions are specified by county. You must check for all types of outdoor burning, including burning in a barrel.

What Can I Burn with My Permit?

This annual burning permit allows the burning of small amounts of clean household paper products or clean wood, brush, leaves, needles or grass. Only paper and cardboard that is not recyclable, such as paper food wrappers may be burned. As in the past, recycling of paper and cardboard is required. General household garbage, plastics, shingles, foam, furniture, painted or treated wood, wire, metal, aluminum, vinyl products, rubber products or oil based products cannot be burned at any time. Special burning permits are required for any burning that is contrary to the restrictions (large brush or clean wood piles, grass fields, ditch banks) that are listed on the annual burning permit or the message on the call-in system or web site.

What Happens if I Do Not have a Written Permit or Do Not Check the Daily Restrictions?

Burning permits are required in many parts of the state. You are responsible for calling the toll-free phone number or checking the web site for the area you wish to burn prior to burning to find out if burning permits are required, what burning restrictions might be in effect or if burning permits have been suspended due to increased forest fire danger. If you fail to obtain your written annual burning permit, call the toll