

Emergency Ordinance

TOWN OF PORTLAND, CONNECTICUT
Chapter 8
FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

Article III. Ban on Open Burning During Extreme Weather

Due to extremely high fire danger in our area, ALL open burning is strictly prohibited within the Town of Portland. This includes ALL leaf burning, burning of brush, use of fire pits and chimineas, and cooking outside of a listed appliance, without exception. Please exercise extreme caution, especially when disposing of smoking materials outdoors.

The Board of Selectmen hereby adopt this Emergency Ordinance per Section 409 of the Portland Town Charter and all applicable provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes, including the Municipal Powers Act (C.G.S. § 7-148) and Section 409 of the Portland Town Charter, no such outdoor burning shall occur. Violators shall be subject to fines and other penalties allowed by law. Open Burning within the Town of Portland shall remain prohibited, and this Ban shall remain in effect until the termination of the thirty-first (31st) day following final passage of this ordinance OR until the Fire Marshal determines that fire danger risk is reduced. When that occurs, a notification will be given indicating that the Emergency Burn Ban entered on this date has been lifted.

Open Burning Permits will not be issued until the fire danger risk is reduced to Medium or Low-risk conditions. Please note that today's forest fire danger report remains at EXTREME: <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/forestry/forest-fire/forest-fire-danger-report>.

Extreme caution should also be exercised while operating any equipment which may cause sparks outdoors. Additionally, residents must be cautious when operating lawn equipment, as leaf buildup can create a significant fire risk. Numerous fires in lawn equipment including incidents in the Town of Portland have occurred because of this danger.

We appreciate your cooperation in preventing wildland and brush fires during this time of extreme conditions. Any questions should be directed to the Town of Portland Fire Marshal's Office at (860) 262-7223.

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