

Incorporated March 12, 1738

TINICUM TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

Tinicum Township Open Burning Policy

Bucks County is located in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Air Basin and in accordance with Chapter 129.24 (Open burning operations), of Pa. Department Of Environmental Protection (DEP) Agencies Rules and Regulations; open burning is prohibited in this County. There are eight (8) exceptions to these regulations:

- 1) A fire set to prevent or abate a fire hazard, when approved by DEP and set by or under the supervision of a public officer.
- 2) Any fire set for the purpose of instructing personnel in fire fighting, when approved by DEP.
- 3) A fire set for the prevention and control of disease or pests, when approved by DEP.
- 4) A fire set in conjunction with the production of agricultural commodities in their unmanufactured state on the premises of the farm operation when approved by DEP.
- 5) A fire set for the purpose of burning refuse, when the fire is on the premises of a structure occupied solely as a dwelling by two (2) families or less and when the refuse results from the normal occupancy of the structure.
- 6) A fire set solely for recreational or ceremonial purposes.
- 7) A fire set solely for cooking food.
- 8) An air curtain destructor shall be used when clearing and grubbing wastes. Each proposed use of an air curtain destructor shall be reviewed and approved by DEP in writing with respect to equipment arrangement, design and existing environmental conditions prior to commencement of burning. For further information see Chapter 129.24 section D.

DEP enforces these regulations. The 24-hour emergency number for DEP is 484-250-5900.

Bucks County is located in the Eastern Division of Forest District #17 under the jurisdiction of the Pa. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Forest Fire Specialist Supervisor, Stephen Cummings can also be of assistance. Cummings can be reached at (610) 469-6217.

There are 2 Forest Wardens, Ben Powell and Roger Bahnck, Sr. and Special Assistant Warden, Doug Skelton. These DCNR wardens can provide information on wildfires and billing procedures for the extinguishment of a wildfire.

Under Purdens 32 Section 344A, a wildfire started accidentally (any flammable material) in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is punishable under Pa. State laws as a misdemeanor of the third degree with a fine of not more than \$500.00 and/or imprisonment in the County jail of not more than 1 year.

Under Purdens 32 Section 344B, a wildfire started intentionally in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is punishable by a \$5,000.00 fine and imprisonment in the State penitentiary of not more than 10 years (from DER. #1456:8/92).

Tinicum Township has an enforceable Fire Prevention Ordinance (Ord. #18), a Nuisance Ordinance (Ord. #1) and Township Zoning Ordinance Section 803, which can be referred to if the smoke is bothering neighboring residents.

For more information, visit the DEP website at www.depweb.state.pa.us

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Office Hours: Mon. Tue. Thurs. Fri. 9am-5pm, Wed. 9am-Noon
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