



Dresden Fire Department

“Established 1905”

Fire Chief Paul Hutcherson



Safe Debris Burning Recommendations:

1. Obtain A Burning Permit.

The City of Dresden requires a permit for outdoor open burning of permitted items such as branches, tree limbs, twigs, lawn clippings, woody vegetation, yard trimmings, clean unpainted, uncoated wood or untreated lumber. Check local and State statutes and ordinances. Improper outdoor burning can lead to fines up to \$25,000 and other civil liability.

2. Notify Your Neighbors if possible.

It is considered courteous to let adjacent landowners know of your plans to burn at least two days in advance if possible. Some citizens could be especially sensitive to smoke and other contaminants.

3. Keep Water and other Equipment Handy to contain fire.

4. Establish Firebreaks.

Rake or plow a firebreak around the area you want to burn. Firebreaks should be free of vegetation and wide enough to contain flames and burning embers that may fall or roll from the pile. The higher the vegetation and larger the pile to be burned, the wider the firebreak should be. It should expose a strip of bare ground at least 3 feet wide through leaves or short grass, and at least 5 feet wide through tall grass or brush.

5. Watch The Weather.

Stay informed about possible weather changes. Wind and relative humidity are important weather considerations. Burning is not encouraged on dry or windy days. Even if you have a permit, you should stop burning if winds or weather changes might carry burning embers to surrounding areas or vegetation. Mornings or late afternoons are generally the best times to burn.

6. Control The Fire

Your Fire is your responsibility! You may be liable for any damages your fire and smoke cause to other people's property! You could also be liable for any necessary fire response by the department allowable by the city code.

7. Stay With Your Fire.

Don't leave your fire until it is completely out and cold. Use plenty of water, douse the embers and mix them with dirt until they are cool and safe. Brush and debris piles can appear to be burned out, but a gust of wind can fan embers to flame or blow them across control lines. Within minutes a calm situation can become a wildfire!

Should your fire escape, do not hesitate to call 911.

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