

TOWNSHIP OF SHIAWASSEE
SHIAWASSEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2020-1

Burning Ordinance

An ordinance to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the persons and property within Shiawassee Township, Shiawassee County, Michigan, by regulating the burning of leaves, trash and any other combustible materials within the community; to provide penalties for the violation thereof and to repeal all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith.

SHIAWASSEE TOWNSHIP ORDAINS:

Section 1: Title

This ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Shiawassee Township Burning Ordinance".

Section 2: Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the people and property within Township against health, safety, environmental and fire hazards caused by the burning near roads, streets, places, building and structures, both public and private. To promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by regulating methods of burning of materials. To encourage alternative methods of disposing of natural and biodegradable materials.

Section 3: General Prohibitions

All out-of-doors burning of any material shall be prohibited, except as provided for in this ordinance.

Construction and Demolition Waste: Construction and demolition (C & D) waste is waste building material, packaging, and rubble that results from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition operations on houses, commercial or industrial buildings, and other structures. C & D waste may be generated at many sources including households, commercial establishments, and industrial facilities. The open burning of any C & D waste is prohibited, even if the burning is to be conducted on the person's own property. A person may NOT take C & D waste to another location (such as a household) to be burned.

Section 4: Provisions for Contained Burning

All out-of-doors contained burning, shall be:

1. Conducted within a fireproof masonry or metal burner containing an approved spark arrester that has no larger than a 3/4" spacing.
2. Only consisting of paper, cardboard, dry leaves, brush and clean untreated lumber.

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3. Started only after sunrise.
4. Extinguished and emitting no smoke after dusk.
5. At least fifteen feet (15') from the edge of any road.
6. At least fifteen feet (15') from any structure including but not limited to fencing, woodpiles, shed, out buildings and utility poles.
7. At least five feet (5') from any public or private property lines.
8. Prohibited if determined by the Fire Chief (or his/her designee) that conditions are such that burning would be hazardous to health, safety, and general welfare of persons or property in the community.
9. Ash or waste from any fire shall not be deposited in within the public streets and highways within the Township.
10. Grills and barbeques: Open burning within an outside grill or barbeque for the expressly limited purpose of food preparation. Grills and barbeques are not permitted on apartment or other multiple family housing balconies.

**Section 5: Provisions for Open on the Ground Burning; All Clearing Lots &/Or
Agricultural Open on the Ground Burning**

All out-of-doors contained burning shall be:

Attended by a competent person at all times.

1. In small, manageable piles.
2. Only consisting of paper, cardboard, dry leaves, brush and clean untreated lumber.
3. Started only after sunrise.
4. Extinguished and emitting no smoke after dusk.
5. At least fifteen feet (15') from the edge of any road.
6. At least twenty-five feet (25') from any structure including but not limited to fencing, woodpiles, shed, out buildings and utility poles.
7. At least ten feet (10') from any public or private property lines.

Section 6: Fire Pits and Campfires and Recreational Bon Fires

All fire pits and campfires shall be:

1. Be no smaller than 18 inches in diameter and no more than 48 inches in diameter.
2. Consist of an 8-inch minimum depression in the ground ringed with stone, brick, concrete or concrete blocks, or steel truck rims with the tire removed.
3. Have a minimum area of thirty-six inches (36") cleared of all burnable materials outside of the fire ring.

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4. Use only seasoned firewood and not extending outside the fire pit or campfire.
5. Be supervised at all times and extinguished upon completion of the event or activity.
6. Allowed year round.

Section 7: General Provisions

Any burning generally permitted under this Ordinance shall be prohibited if the Fire Chief (or his/her designee) determines that conditions are such that burning would be hazardous to health, safety, and general welfare of persons or property in the Township.

Ash or waste from any fire shall not be deposited within the public streets and highways within Township.

Section 8: Nuisance

No burning shall be permitted at any time or in any location which would be a nuisance, hazard, or annoyance to adjoining persons or property by reason of heat, flame, fly-ash, sparks, smoke, or odor. The determination of the person or persons designated to enforce this Ordinance as set out in Section 10 shall be conclusive as to whether or not any burning violates this provision.

Section 9: Permits

No burning shall be permitted at any time or in any location of Shiawassee Township which does not comply with this ordinance. Shiawassee Township Fire Department does not issue burning permits.

Section 10: Enforcement

The enforcement of this ordinance, and regulations established by the Township Board, shall be performed by the Fire Chief and any other person or persons as the Township Board shall designate by resolution.

Section 11: Penalties

Any person, partnership, fire, association or corporation who shall set or start a fire as required by this ordinance or fails to comply with the rules as defined and set forth in this ordinance, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine or penalty of not less than \$50.00 (fifty) or more than \$500.00 (five hundred), or by imprisonment in the Shiawassee County Jail not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

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And Shiawassee Township may sue in any court of competent jurisdiction for civil damages and injunctive relief and may recover such costs and expenses incurred by them from any person, partnership, firm, association or corporation who sets such a fire. All funds received from the collection of fees as established by this ordinance shall be deposited in the respected department that has been contracted with.

Section 12: Severability

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is declared void or unenforceable for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any portion of this ordinance other than said part or portion thereof.

Section 13: Repeal

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 14: Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication following its adoption.

Section 15: Publication

This ordinance is ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.


Section 16: Adoption and Certification

This ordinance is hereby declared to be adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Shiawassee in Shiawassee County, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on June 17, 2020. All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict with any of the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed.

Moved by John Sedlock and supported by Richard Godfrey that the foregoing ordinance be adopted.


A vote on the foregoing ordinance was as follows: Aye: 5 Nay: 0

Christina Gaudette


Christina Gaudette, Clerk

Certification

I, Christina Gaudette, Clerk of the Township of Shiawassee, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the Burning Ordinance 2020-1 adopted by the Township of Shiawassee on the 17th day of June, 2020.

Christina Gaudette 
Christina Gaudette, Clerk