# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

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**RULES For**

# OPEN BURNING

## CITY OF SAUGATUCK, CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS AND SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

Note: The Fire Clerk will be issuing **Burn Permits** Tuesday-Friday from 8am-3pm. *The "DNR Fire Danger" website will be reviewed each morning prior to permits being* issued.

**OPEN BURNING -** Douglas

1. There is **NO** open burning allowed in the City of the Village of Douglas.

**OPEN BURNING –** City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township

1. **Burn permits are required** for open burning. **Contact the Fire Clerk** at stfd-clerk@outlook.com or (269) 857-3000 for **burn permits** or open burning information.
2. No person shall start or maintain any outdoor burning or open burning covered under this section without a burning permit issued by Saugatuck Township Fire District. A burn permit must be obtained prior to burning, and for each day open burning will take place.
3. The location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure.
4. Open burning shall take place during daylight hours only and extinguished at sunset.
5. The open burning of construction and demolition waste is NOT allowed.
6. The open burning of trees, logs, brush, and stumps is allowed if it meets the criteria listed in the Rules.

Rules for Open Burning – Continued

7. Open burning underneath overhead power lines is not allowed.
8. Open burning shall not take place within 1,400 feet from the boundary of City of Saugatuck or Douglas.
9. Open burning, bonfires, recreational fires and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.
10. A person utilizing or maintaining an outdoor fire shall be responsible for all fire suppression costs and any other liability resulting from damage caused by fire.
11. If the Fire Department determines open burning creates a hazard, smoke or odor nuisance, the Fire Department shall have the authority to extinguish the fire.
12. The open burning of grass clippings and leaves produces thick smoke which can be a nuisance and is a health threat to those with respiratory problems, and shall not be allowed.

Reference: International Fire Code (IFC), Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ – Air Quality Division, Department of Natural Resources (DNR – Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division)

For more information on open burning, including the health effects, go to www.michigan,gov/deq (click on "Air" then "Open Burning Information").

Chief Greg Janik
Saugatuck Township Fire District