



OPEN BURNING POLICIES

The St. Cloud Fire Department is establishing the following policy concerning open burning within the City of St. Cloud. This policy is consistent with the Minnesota State Fire Code as amended and adopted by the City of St. Cloud.

TYPES OF OPEN BURNING AND PERMITTING:

- (1) **LEAF BURNING:** The burning of leaves and yard waste is prohibited in all areas within the City of St. Cloud with the exception of Agriculturally Zoned Property.
- (2) **BURNING PERMITS-AGRICULTURALLY ZONED PROPERTY:** This permit is valid for leaves, brush, dried grass, scrap lumber (not including treated lumber) and garden trimmings, etc. It is not valid for rubbish or trash. These permits can only be issued to areas zoned Agricultural. These permits are available all year except during periods of declared burning bans and are valid for a period of five (5) consecutive days. Burning must occur between dawn and 7:00 p.m. There is a \$13 charge for this permit. **This permit is issued during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), except holidays, at Fire Station #1.**
- (3) **RECREATIONAL BURNING PERMITS:** These annual permits (January 1 – December 31) are valid for recreational burning only. They are not valid for burning brush, trash, or treated lumber. Property owners must be able to meet the minimum setback requirements before a permit can be issued. These permits are available all year, and burning is permitted daily from 4 p.m. - midnight only. The permit fee is \$25. **This permit is issued during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), except holidays, at Fire Station #1. If you are the property owner, permits are (in most cases) immediately available on the City of St. Cloud website, under Departments, Fire, Permits.**
- (4) **NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PERMITS:** It is recognized that many areas within the City of St. Cloud have incorporated native prairies as a landscaping alternative. It is further recognized that maintaining these prairies by prescribed burning is the preferred method. These permits may be issued to a recognized business that conducts prescribed burning or government agencies. Permits will be valid for a two-week period. If the prescribed burn has not been completed during the two-week period the applicant can re-apply for additional periods, at no additional charge, until the prescribed burn is conducted. These permits must be reviewed by the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal's Office prior to being issued. Applicants for this permit must provide the following information at time of application:
 - a. Site Plan of Proposed Burn Area
 - b. Burn Plan – Plan to include the methods for burning and fire control during the prescribed burn and also how residents in the immediate area will be notified about the prescribed burn.

- c. Smoke Management Plan
- d. Requested time frame for conducting the prescribed burn (two (2) week period)
- e. A letter of permission to conduct the prescribed burn signed by the property owner

The fees for Natural Resource Management Permits are as follows:

- a. Less Than One (1) Acre: \$15.00
- b. One (1) Acre to Ten (10) Acres: \$30.00
- c. Greater Than Ten (10) Acres: \$45.00

These permits can be applied for during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), except holidays, at Fire Station #1. Depending on the size and complexity of the proposed prescribed burn, permits may take up to three business days to be issued.

- (5) **SPECIAL PERMITS:** The Fire Chief may issue special permits for special or unique functions of an educational or cultural nature if it is deemed they can be safely accomplished. **This permit is issued during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), except holidays, at Fire Station #1. This permit may take up to three business days to be issued.**

RESTRICTIONS:

The Fire Chief, or his designated representative, may order the extinguishment by the permit holder or the fire department of open burning when it creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

Any and all permits issued by the St. Cloud Fire Department shall be considered temporarily void during declared burning bans issued by either the City of St. Cloud Fire Department or the State of Minnesota. Permits shall once again be valid when burning bans are removed.