



TOWN OF SANBORNTON

BURN PERMIT REQUIREMENTS



These rules are being provided as a courtesy by the Town of Sanbornton, they are not meant to be all-inclusive. For more detail consult RSA 227-L.

1. You must be at least 18 years of age, the legal landowner or have the landowner's **written permission** to obtain a valid burn permit for all outside fires kindled in the Town of Sanbornton.
2. To obtain a valid **Seasonal Permit** for Category 1 and/or Category 2 type fires, you must meet the following criteria;
Category 1 – A burn pit not to exceed 2 ft., fully enclosed with a ring and must be 25 ft. from all structures. This type permit may be kindled any time during the day when conditions allow.
Category 2 – A burn pit not to exceed 4 ft., fully enclosed with a ring and must be 50 ft. from all structures. This type of permit is only valid between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. when conditions allow.
Seasonal Burn Permits will be inspected by the Sanbornton Fire Department on a 5-year cycle, or when the burn pit is moved, changed in size, or when the Town Forest Fire Warden or his designee deems it necessary.
3. Category 3 permits may be issued for up to 3 days if conditions allow and are only valid between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. and must be 50 ft. from all structures.
4. For all permits the following apply:
 - a. Only clean, untreated and non-contaminated wood may be burned.
(NO construction debris, composite materials, paper, household waste, rubber, plastic, pressure treated or painted wood, etc.) per RSA 125-N.
 - b. Brush and wood cannot exceed 5 inches in diameter.
 - c. No use of accelerants (gasoline, oil, etc.) to start the fire
 - d. Proper fire extinguishing equipment must be on hand to maintain control of the fire at all times
 - e. The fire must be constantly attended until extinguished
 - f. The fire must be completely extinguished (no smoke, heat or flames) prior to you abandoning the area. A buried fire is not considered extinguished.
 - g. Keep all fires small and under control. If your fire causes any property damage, you will be responsible for the cost of the firefighting effort as well as being held liable for the damage that occurs.
 - h. **You are allowed to burn between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm with a PERMIT if it is raining, but if it stops raining, you must extinguish the fire immediately and wait until 5 pm to continue.**
5. If the fire department is called to investigate your fire, you may be ordered to extinguish or darken down the fire. If you are found to be in violation of any of the parameters of your permit according to RSA 227-L, your permit may be summarily revoked. Also, if an abutter calls because the smoke is traveling onto their property and causes a nuisance, you may be asked to extinguish the fire (State of NH Dept. of Air Resources Rules)

Per New Hampshire state law Burn Permits are not required when the ground is covered with snow 100 ft. around the burn pile and you may burn between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm.

In the town of Sanbornton, we ask that you contact the Fire Department during the hours of 8 am and 8 pm to let us know that you will be conducting a burn, this will ensure that we will not have to send a full response for calls we may receive regarding your burn from a passerby or neighbor.

You may call (286-4819) or stop by the Central Fire Station at 565 Sanborn Rd. to advise us that you will be conducting a burn or with any questions.

Normal Permit Requirements will be in affect when spring returns or the ground becomes uncovered.

To obtain a permit you may call or stop by the Central Fire Station.

Thank you for assistance,

Chief Paul D. Dexter Jr.
Town Forest Fire Warden

Prohibited Burning Construction & Demolition Debris and Household Trash

Materials Not Acceptable for Burning

- Construction & demolition debris
- Tires
- Household trash
- Packaging materials
- Plastics
- Coated or laminated paper
- Coated or treated cardboard
- Oily rags
- Animal, vegetable and kitchen waste
- Used Oil, gasoline and hazardous waste
- Brush greater than 5 inches in diameter
- Any wood that has been painted/stained, glued, or treated in any way



Materials Acceptable for Burning

- Campfire wood
- Charcoal
- Clean pallets

If generated on-site

- Brush (less than 5 inches in diameter)
- Clean lumber scraps (private single family residences only)

Burning construction & demolition debris and household trash releases toxic air pollutants, creates potentially hazardous ash, and puts your family, neighbors, and the environment at risk.



All burning must be conducted in accordance with local ordinances and under a "Permit To Kindle Fire" issued by the local Fire Warden or authorized agent.



Please contact DES at (603) 271-1370 for more information on open burning.

TITLE XIX-A FORESTRY

CHAPTER 227-L WOODLAND FIRE CONTROL

Permits, Prohibitions, and Penalties

Section 227-L:17

227-L:17 Permits; Damages; Penalties. –

I. It shall be unlawful for any person to kindle or cause to be kindled a fire upon the land of another without first obtaining permission from the landowner or the landowner's agent, or upon public land without the written permission from the official caretaker, excepting that upon a public recreational area where fireplaces and a supervisor are provided, presence of an official supervisor or caretaker upon such land shall constitute permission.

II. No person, firm, or corporation shall kindle or cause to be kindled any fire or shall burn or cause to be burned any material, and no city or town shall kindle or maintain a fire on a public dump, except when the ground is covered with snow, without first obtaining a written permit from the forest fire warden of the town where the burning is to be done unless it is in the presence of the warden or the warden's agent.

III. Permits for the burning of blueberry stands to increase their productivity and for the burning of waste materials of mills processing forest products may be granted by the forest ranger, provided such burnings are done under the surveillance of the landowner or the landowner's agent.

IV. Camp or cooking fires may be kindled only with written permission of the landowner or the landowner's agent and written permission of the forest fire warden of the town in which the fire is to be kindled and only at suitable times and in suitable places when the fire will not endanger woodlands; except in such towns as have adopted bylaws or regulations equally as stringent as provided in this paragraph. Camp or cooking fires may be built without written permission on public camp or picnic grounds when such areas are open for public use or private camp and picnic places where suitable fireplaces approved by the forest fire warden are provided for such fires. As used in this paragraph, a camp or cooking fire shall be a small fire suitable for cooking purposes used in connection with camp, picnic or lunch purposes and does not include the burning of household rubbish, or large amounts of brush or other flammable material. Whoever shall kindle or cause to be kindled any such fire or use an abandoned fire in or near woodlands shall totally extinguish the same before leaving it and, upon failure to do so, such person or persons shall be subject to the same liabilities and penalties as prescribed in this section.

V. Any person causing or kindling a fire without permit of the forest fire warden, when such permit is required, and any person by whose negligence, or by the negligence of the person's agents, any fire shall be caused, shall be liable in a civil action for the payment to the town, or the state or the United States, or any or all of the same, of the expenses incurred by the forest fire warden or deputy warden in attending or extinguishing such fire. The items of expenses of the fire shall be approved in writing by the director.

VI. Every person who sets fire on any land, that runs upon the land of any other person, shall pay to the owner all damages done by such fire.

VII. Any person violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and any person who causes or kindles a fire by any means, willfully or recklessly, which shall endanger a woodland shall be guilty of a misdemeanor if a natural person, or guilty of a felony if any other person.

Source. 1995, 299:1, eff. Jan. 1, 1996. 2000, 66:1, eff. Jan. 1, 2001.