

Summary of Open Burning of Landscape Waste Regulations

McHenry County Public Health Ordinance
Article II - Section II.4 (starting on page 5 of Article II)

PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES:

Burning of manure, garbage, litter, etc. on any property in McHenry County
Burning of landscape waste within 100' of a habitable structure (i.e. residence, school, etc.)
Burning of landscape waste within 50' of a non-habitable structure (i.e. detached garage, barn, etc.)

RESTRICTIONS WHEN GREATER THAN 100' FROM A HABITABLE STRUCTURE AND 50' FROM A NON-HABITABLE STRUCTURE

Only landscape waste and only on the property where the landscape waste was generated
Only during the months of April, May, October and November (weekends only)
Only between dawn and dusk
Only when the winds are less than 10 mph
Must be supervised by an individual at least 18 years of age
A fire extinguisher, garden hose, or water source must be available by the burning site.

500' EXEMPTIONS

Burning of on-site generated landscape waste 500' or greater from a habitable structure is allowed:

1. During any month of the year
2. On any day of the week
3. At any time of the day

Note: All other prohibitions/restrictions apply.

OTHER EXEMPTIONS

Recreational fires, not larger than 3'x3'x3', and excludes leaves, grass or shrubbery clippings
Ceremonial fires (bonfires) larger than 3'x3'x3', and excludes leaves, grass or shrubbery clippings; permit required from McHenry County Department of Health

ENFORCEMENT

Any officer of the McHenry County Department of Health, law enforcement agency, fire department or fire protection district is authorized to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

The following link will connect you to open burning information on the county's website:

<https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-a-i/health-department/environmental-health/nuisance-control/open-burning-ordinance>