

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL KERNS RESIDENTS

FIRE PERMITS

Spring is here and the warm weather is finally upon us all. With that, people like to burn garbage, grass, old bales of hay or straw, debris, old wood, etc.

SAFETY is also on everyone's mind when it comes to fires. That's when FIRE PERMITS come into effect. There are LAWS where Fire Permits are concerned.

Anyone burning **HAS** to get a Fire Permit. The Fire Permits are available (between April 1st and October 31st) at the Township Office and are FREE of charge. If you burn WITHOUT a Fire Permit and the Fire Department is called to assist, you will be charged a minimum of **six hundred (\$600) dollars**, for starting a fire without a permit. There will be no prior warning : EVERYONE KNOWS THEY NEED A FIRE PERMIT TO BURN.

However, you must follow the rules and regulations of the Fire Permit.

You CANNOT burn during the day!!! The permit is not valid between 2 hours after sunrise and 2 hours before sunset on any day. Winds shall not exceed 5 km per hour.

PLASTIC AND PLASTIC BAGS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE BURNED!!!

When burning in an incinerator (barrel), you need a Fire Permit, but this permit is good for the whole burning season (April 1st to October 31st). The outlet of the incinerator has to be covered with a screen having a mesh size of not more than 5 mm. All fires should be supervised at all times!

Fire Permits for burning grass, bales of hay or straw, debris, wood, etc ... will be given for 3 days at a time only. If you have not used your fire permit or are not done burning, you need to get another fire permit at the township office. Fire Permits are free of charge.

If you don't follow the terms and conditions of your permit, you are guilty of an offence against By-law No. 2009-738 and section 5 of O. Reg. 207-96 of the Forest Fires Prevention Act and is subject to a fine of not more than **one thousand (\$1,000) dollars**, exclusive of costs, and every fine is recoverable under the Provincial Offences Act.

NOTE: If a fire gets out of control on your property and MNR has to intervene, whether you have a fire permit or not, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE for your fire and the cost of MNR's assistance or of the Fire Department will be charged to the owner.

A fire permit is NOT required for a small confined fire (campfire) for cooking or personal warmth, but your "Campfire" must be supervised AT ALL TIMES!

During a provincial or municipal "FIRE BAN", no open air burning is permitted including campfires, cooking or fireworks! NO permits will be issued and all permits previously issued before the fire ban will be cancelled.

Mark Lenover
Fire Chief
Kerns Fire Department