

Alternatives to Burning

RECYCLE

Chip or grind brush and reuse for mulch.



WOOD RECYCLING CENTER

4063 North Hawthorne St.
Chattanooga, TN 37406
(423) 643-6311

BIRCHWOOD LANDFILL

9327 Birchwood Pike
Harrison, TN 37341
(423) 486-9427



PAPER DISPOSAL

Dispose of paper by shredding or recycling it. Check with the Better Business Bureau for semi-annual paper shredding events.

BRUSH PICKUP

Check with your local municipality about brush pickup services.



RECREATIONAL FIRE



- No permit required.
- For cooking, camping, or warming using charcoal or seasoned, pre-cut firewood.
- **Maximum size: 3' wide x 2' high.**
- **Must** be completely **extinguished** when finished.
- **Cannot** be left **unattended**.
- **Cannot be used as a means of disposal.**

Why is Burning Regulated?

- **Smoke contains toxic air pollutants that threaten public health.**
- The **pollutants cause health effects** including allergies, asthma, respiratory and/or heart issues, and can cause cancer.
- **Regulation** helps Hamilton County **meet federal air quality standards** set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Prohibiting summertime burning reduces air pollution by at least **4 tons per day!** 



DEFINITIONS

- **BRUSH:** Tree limbs, branches, shrubs, small trees, and other woody yard waste.
- **OPEN BURNING** is the burning of leaves, brush and natural vegetation as a means of disposal.
- **FIRE:** *If there's smoke, there's fire.* Smoke means combustion is occurring – even when no flames are visible.
- **UNATTENDED FIRE:** A fire is unattended when no one is present to continuously monitor it and prevent it from spreading.
- **SMOKE/ODOR NUISANCE:** Smoke/odor from another property that unreasonably interferes with the use or enjoyment of your property.

LEARN MORE



apcb.org



[ChattanoogaAirPollutionControl](https://www.facebook.com/ChattanoogaAirPollutionControl)



[ChattanoogaAir](https://www.chattanoogaair.org)



OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS

HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE



2034 Hamilton Place Blvd., STE 300
Chattanooga, TN 37421
(423) 643-5970 | apcb.org

Qualifying for a Permit

✓ Put a check in the box for every statement where your answer is "Yes."

- **7 checkmarks?**

- Apply for a burn permit.

- **6 or fewer checkmarks?**

 **STOP** — Do not apply for a permit. You need to use a different disposal method.

☐ I confirm that burning is the only practical method of disposal.

☐ I confirm that the material to be burned consists only of vegetation, and/or raw, untreated, non-manufactured wood, and is less than twelve (12) inches in diameter.

☐ I confirm that the burn site is more than 100 feet from my neighbor's structure.

☐ I confirm that I will burn only during the designated hours and will have the fire completely extinguished by the cutoff time.

☐ I confirm that any burning I conduct will not create a nuisance.

☐ I confirm that all materials to be burned originated from the burn site location listed on the application (burning materials from other locations is prohibited).

☐ I confirm that the total amount of material to be burned during this burn season is less than two (2) acres of material.

Applying for a Permit



**BURNING IS PERMITTED
OCTOBER 1 TO APRIL 30.**

A permit is required to burn up to two (2) acres of brush or vegetation in a burn season.

A completed application and payment are required before processing.

Permit fees are **non-refundable**, whether the permit is **approved** or **denied**.

 **HOW TO APPLY:** 
online | in person | by mail

Applications cannot be submitted by phone.

Burn Location	Fee	Inspection
City Burn Permit		
Chattanooga	\$75	Yes
Collegedale	\$75	Yes
East Ridge	\$75	Yes
Red Bank	\$75	Yes
Ridgeside	\$75	Yes
County Burn Permit		
Lakesite	\$15	No
Lookout Mountain	\$15	No
Signal Mountain	\$15	No
Soddy-Daisy	\$15	No
Walden	\$15	No
Hamilton County	\$15	No

Controlled Burn Permit:

- **Cost:** \$625
- **Applies when burning two (2) or more acres of vegetation at a time.**
- **Visit apcb.org to learn more.**



Did You Know?

Before You Burn

- 1 **READ THE BURN PERMIT RULES.**
- 2 Follow steps 1, 2, and 3 on your burn permit.



Burn Safety

- **IF THERE IS SMOKE - THERE IS FIRE.**
- **Never** leave a fire **unattended**.
- Have **water** or a **fire extinguisher** readily available. 
- Burn **only** brush generated **from** the **permitted property**.
- **Completely extinguish the fire before the permitted end time.**
- **No smoldering or smoking fires** *after* the permitted end time. 

What Cannot Be Burned?

- ✗ Household garbage
- ✗ Cardboard or paper
- ✗ Treated or painted wood
- ✗ Construction debris
- ✗ Pallets
- ✗ Plastics, PVC pipe, insulation, roofing materials, tires, sheetrock, or other manufactured materials

