

Open Burn Permit Process

FACT SHEET

April 2022



When a local Fire Department/Fire Protection District wishes to burn a building, the department is required to fulfill certain regulatory processes to ensure compliance with laws and regulations. This fact sheet summarizes those requirements.

OSFM Requirements

None – The Office of the State Fire Marshal does not regulate or have statutory authority in this area of discussion. We are providing this for informational purposes and guidance.

EPA Requirements

The Illinois Pollution Control Board and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regulate open burning. Local governments may also regulate open burning in areas where they have jurisdiction. Open burning permits are issued for a myriad of activities. Houses donated for firefighting training/fire extinguisher training must be free-standing establishments. Structures already demolished and/or debris are not eligible for donation to fire departments and may not be burned. Structures are required to have an asbestos inspection and all asbestos containing materials must be removed prior to the burn. For fire fighter training/fire extinguisher training the following forms must be completed and submitted:

For further state environmental information go to the IEPA website at: IEPA Environmental Informational Link or they can be reached at (217) 557-8761 (<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/forms/air-permits/Pages/open-burning.aspx>)

NFPA Standards

The National Fire Protection Association has published Standard 1403 “Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions (2018 Edition)”. This Standard provides guidance in live fire training specifically providing direction on student, instructional and facility prerequisites, and requirements. While not a required compliance standard, it is recommended practice to follow NFPA standards. A contents list is provided on the reverse side of this fact sheet. The standard itself is available from NFPA.

NFPA STANDARD 1403 Contents

Chapter 1: Administration

- 1.1 Scope
- 1.2 Purpose
- 1.3 Application

Chapter 2: Referenced Publications

- 2.1 General
- 2.2 NFPA Publications
- 2.3 Other Publications
- 2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections

Chapter 3: Definitions

- 3.1 General
- 3.2 NFPA Official Definitions
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Chapter 4: General

- 4.1 Application
- 4.2 Permits
- 4.3 Student Prerequisites
- 4.4 Participant Health & Safety
- 4.5 Safety Officer
- 4.6 Extreme Weather
- 4.7 Instructor-in-Charge and Instructors
- 4.8 Fire Control Team
- 4.9 Personal Protective Clothing
- 4.10 Communication
- 4.11 Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- 4.12 Water Supply
- 4.13 Fuel Materials
- 4.14 Parking/Staging
- 4.15 Visitors and Spectators
- 4.16 Preburn Plan/Briefing
- 4.17 Victim(s)

Chapter 5: Acquired Structures

- 5.1 Structures and Facilities
- 5.2 Hazards
- 5.3 Utilities
- 5.4 Exits
- 5.5 Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC)
- 5.6 Water Supply

Chapter 6: Gas-Fired Live Fire

Training Structures and Mobile

Enclosed Live Fire Training Props

- 6.1 Structures and Facilities
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Chapter 7: Non-Gas Fired Live Fire

Training Structures and Mobile

Enclosed Live Fire Training Props

- 7.1 Structures and Facilities
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Chapter 8: Exterior Live Fire

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- 8.1 Props, Structures, and Facilities
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Chapter 9: Reports and Records

Annex A: Explanatory Material

Annex B: Live Fire Evolution Sample Checklist

Annex C: Responsibilities of Personnel

Annex D: Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke in Training

Annex E: Informational References

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