

New rules against open burning take effect October 14, 2009

A new state law extending restrictions on open burning take effect October 14, 2009.

The open **burning of residential waste will be prohibited in all communities statewide**, regardless of population. Exceptions are made for burning tree limbs and branches at limited times and other certain circumstances.

Officials say backyard burning of trash releases toxic compounds and also is the largest single cause of wildfires in the state.

Exceptions to the ban include burning **limbs and branches between May 15th and the following March 15th** in towns with less than 20,000 people. Also exempted is burning of organic agricultural waste, and small cooking and campfires.