



TOWN OF SALEM  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS**  
**152 MAIN STREET**  
**SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03079**  
BUSINESS: (603) 890-2200 FACSIMILE: (603) 893-3789  
WWW.TOWNOFSALEMNH.ORG

## General Outside Burning Rules

**THESE RULES ARE BEING PROVIDED AS A COURTESY OF THE SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT. THEY ARE NOT MEANT TO BE ALL-INCLUSIVE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONSULT RSA 227-L AND/OR YOUR PERMIT.**

1. A burning permit is required for ALL kindled outside fires within the Town of Salem.
2. Burning may commence between the hours of 5 PM and midnight unless raining or there is snow on the ground (full cover). (Exceptions can be made to the midnight rule on a case-by-case basis). Small cooking fires **may** be allowed during the day when it's not raining...this is on a case by case basis, at the discretion of the Warden or his designee.
3. Prior to lighting the fire, the permittee must call the Salem Fire Department at **890-2200** to obtain permission to burn. Please have your permit number ready. Please do not call until after 4:30 PM, as the decision to allow burning on a particular day does not generally occur until that time.
4. The permittee must remain with the fire at all times.
5. The fire must be at least 50 feet away from all buildings.  
**Exception:** Outdoor fire appliances such as a chiminea must be no closer than 25 feet.
6. There must be some type of fire extinguishing method in place at the location of the fire.
7. Only clean wood may be burned. (NO paper, trash, rubber, plastic, pressure treated or painted wood, etc.).
8. **DO NOT** use accelerants (gasoline, oil, etc.) to start the fire.
9. No lumber/wood greater than 5 inches in diameter shall be burned.
10. The fire must be completely extinguished and cold prior to the permittee abandoning the area.
11. If a fire officer is called to investigate your fire, he may order your fire to be extinguished or darkened down. If you are found to be in violation of any of the parameters of your permit according to RSA 227-L, your permit may be summarily revoked. Also, if an abutter calls because the smoke is bothering them, you may be asked to extinguish the fire (State of NH Department of Air Resources Rules).
12. PLEASE keep all fires small and under control. If your fire causes any property damage, you will be responsible for the cost of the firefighting effort as well as being held liable for the damage that occurred.