



# What you need to know about **OPEN BURNING**

## WHAT'S ALLOWED?



Clean Wood for Recreational  
or Ceremonial Fires



Charcoal

## WHAT'S PROHIBITED?



No Trash



No Chemicals  
or Plastics



No Tires



No Yard Waste



No Homes/Buildings



No Demo/  
Construction Debris



No Paper



## RESIDENTIAL BURNING

LAKE / PORTER COUNTIES

[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)



# Indiana Department of Environmental Management

## Residential Open Burning is Never Allowed in Lake and Porter Counties

Indiana's air pollution control rules allow for certain types of private residential open burning; however, additional restrictions apply in Lake and Porter counties. **Burning of trash, leaves, or yard waste is not allowed in these counties.** There are certain recreational burning exceptions to the open burning rule. IDEM always encourages alternatives to open burning such as composting, mulching, or recycling.

### These rules **must** always be followed:

- No burning of trash or yard waste such as leaves, tree limbs, or brush for disposal purposes is allowed in Lake and Porter counties.
- Recreational or ceremonial fires, such as fires for scouting activities or cooking, may only burn clean wood products, paper, or charcoal.
- Recreational or ceremonial burning cannot be used for disposal purposes.
- Recreational or ceremonial fires must be done during safe weather conditions, not during high winds. Fires must be attended until completely extinguished, and adequate fire suppression equipment present.
- Fires must be extinguished if they create a fire hazard, nuisance, pollution problem or threat to public health.
- Burning must comply with all other federal, state and local laws, rules or ordinances.
- Want to learn more? Visit IDEM's open burning site at [www.idem.IN.gov/openburning](http://www.idem.IN.gov/openburning).

*To report illegal open burning, call the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (800) 451-6027, option 3.*



Recycle when possible



Properly dispose of trash, chemicals and/or debris