



Marathon City Fire Department

408 Market Street

PO Box 178

Marathon City, WI 54448

(715) 573-7390

Burning permits are required by the Village of Marathon City within the corporate boundaries of the Village per §5.3.15 Outdoor Burning, to conduct burning of Legal Materials (listed below) when the ground is not completely snow-covered. Burning permits are issued per instance of a controlled burn. Individuals burning with or without a permit should contact the non-emergency number for Marathon County Dispatch at 715-261-1200 to notify them prior to starting the controlled burn.

What you burn, matters

Burning permits are issued to individuals wishing to burn small amounts of yard debris or clean wood from a single family household on the property where it was generated either on the ground or in burn barrels. This includes prescribed or broadcast burns for land management purposes.

Legal Materials

- Brush
- Leaves
- Pine needles
- Grass
- Clean wood
- Unrecyclable paper*
- Unrecyclable cardboard*

**Recycling of clean paper and cardboard is required by law!*

NOT allowed

- Garbage
- Plastics
- Shingles
- Foam
- Structures
- Furniture
- Wire
- Metal

- Electronics
- Vinyl products
- Rubber products
- Oil-based products
- Painted, stained or treated wood

If you are burning in a campfire ring or fire pit with the intent to eliminate debris, a DNR burning permit is required. However, small fires for warming or cooking purposes do not require a DNR burning permit and are allowed anytime of the day, except during Emergency Burning Restrictions.



Burning Permit Required



Burning Permit Not Required

- **Safety tip:** Even campfires in a fire ring or fire pit can cause a wildfire! Be aware of the [daily fire danger](#) or call the hotline 1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) before conducting any burn in the outdoors.

Weather conditions and moisture content in vegetation play the biggest role in how wildfires start and spread. Therefore, the time of year and even the time of day influences how burning is regulated. Spring is Wisconsin's peak fire season and when most fire restrictions are in effect. This occurs shortly after the snow-cover disappears and prior to vegetation greening.

In addition, burning is typically restricted to late afternoon or evening hours to reduce the chances of a fire escaping. In the evening, winds are calmer, humidity rises and temperatures are cooler. Always keep an eye on the changing weather conditions and stay within the specified burn times and size limitations as indicated by the daily restrictions.

Always Consider Alternatives to Burning

- **Reuse:** Find someone else who can use it, have a yard sale or donate. Bring reusable shopping bags to the grocery store. Leave grass clippings on the lawn; they contain nutrients.
- **Recycle:** Separate newspaper, magazines, cardboard, paper, glass, plastic and aluminum, steel or tin cans.
- **Dispose:** Discard non-recyclable waste materials at a licensed landfill.
- **Compost:** Mulch or collect leaves and plant clippings for composting or move brush piles in the woods for wildlife habitat.
- **Chip:** Collect brush and clean wood to make mulch or decorative chips, or use as heating fuel in fireplaces.
- **Wait:** Avoid burning in the spring. The safest time to burn is when the ground is completely snow-covered. Throw a tarp over legal materials and wait until it snows.

Understand the Risks

Permit holders must comply with all the conditions associated with the burning permit and take all reasonable precautions to prevent escape of the fire. The person responsible for lighting the fire is required to have a valid burning permit with them at all times while burning and must be available to present to law enforcement or firefighters if requested. If you fail to obtain a burning permit, do not comply with the daily fire restrictions or allow your fire to escape, you may be cited by law enforcement. Remember, lighting any fire in the outdoors is risky. If you choose to burn and your fire escapes and starts a wildfire, you are liable for all suppression costs and potentially any damages associated with that fire. At any point if you are uncomfortable with your burn, do not hesitate to dial 911 immediately.