



Controlled Burning – Fire Service Requirements

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Failure to give notice of your intention to carry out controlled burning of waste and to manage the controlled burn in accordance with guidance contained within this document, may result in Fire Brigade resources being deployed to the scene of the fire and fire charges issued to land owner and may also result in a loss of farm payments from the Department of Agriculture.

Before carrying out any Controlled Burning

- An “**ERCC Email Notification – Controlled Burning**” form must be completed. The Environment Section will record information relating to the date, time and locations where the controlled burning will take place and pass this information on to the Fire Service Regional Control Centre (ERCC).
- This form is available to download from www.offaly.ie or by phoning 057 93 46800 and asking for the Environment Section of Offaly County Council
- This form must be received by The Environment Section of Offaly County Council **at least 1 full working day before the burn**. Please note, forms can only be accepted during office hours from Monday to Friday.

The landowner must also ring the Fire Service Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC)

- The landowner **is required** to contact Fire Service Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC) prior to the commencement of the controlled burn by phone on **0818 300 112** to provide details of when it is intended to commence controlled burning and again on completion of burning.
- The Regional Control Centre will **not** record any details in relation to controlled burning unless they receive confirmation from Offaly County Council that they have been notified of the intention to carry out a controlled burn. Therefore, you may be charged in the event that the Fire Service is mobilised if the Local Authority has not been informed in the first instance.

Advice when carrying out a controlled agricultural burn

- It is the responsibility of the person carrying out the controlled burn to be in compliance with any requirements of the Wildlife Act, 1976 (as amended). Further information on the implications of the Wildlife Act, 1976 (as amended) for controlled burning can be obtained from <https://www.npws.ie/>
- Burning should commence early in the day and should be supervised from start to finish.
- A fire break of at least 50 feet (16 metres) should be made at the outside of the area to be burned by cultivation or clearing the land of vegetation.



- Inform the owner or forester in charge of any woodland nearby.
- In addition to informing the owner or forester of any woodland nearby you are also required under section 39 of the Wildlife Act 1976, as amended by the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000, that a person shall not burn any vegetation growing within one mile of a wood which is not the property of such person, or other lands restricted by the Wildlife Acts, unless they have provided written notice of their intention to a Garda station in a Garda district in which the land they intend to burn is situated. Notice of intention to burn must be provided between seven and 35 days prior to the burning. Failure to provide written notice is an offence carrying penalties.
- Inform your neighbours to prevent alarm.
- Burn against the direction of the wind.
- Smoke should not cause a nuisance to others or become a road safety hazard.
- Do not attempt to carry out the operation alone. Enlist sufficient help to ensure that the burning is carried out efficiently, effectively and safely.
- Equipment for extinguishing the fire must be on hand before the burning begins. If possible have a mobile water tanker (slurry tanker) or crop sprayer with a hose attachment. Fire retardant clothing is required for all workers using fire. Face visors BS 2092 and BSEN1166 are highly desirable. Safety Goggles are also advised. Where prolonged exposure to smoke is likely suitable masks are advised.
- No burning should be carried out at night.
- If the fire gets out of control and threatens buildings or woodlands, call the Fire Brigade immediately by dialling 999 and meet the Fire Brigade to show them the best route to the fire.
- Before leaving the area make sure that the fire is completely out.
- Within SPA designated areas the advice of the National Parks Service should be sought as regards conservation issues. Where Archaeological features are present the National Monuments division of DOECLG should be informed.
- Individuals intending to burn must ensure that they have suitable insurance cover and farm safety statements etc. should take account of Burning.

Further information on burning and agricultural practices is available from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine at the following link:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forestservice/landandforestfires/>

IF IN DOUBT DO NOT BURN



ERCC Email Notification – Controlled Burning

Important Notice:

The Landowner wishing to carry out Controlled Burning should contact the Regional Fire Control Centre (ERCC) on **0818 300 112** (non emergency line) upon commencement and completion of the Controlled Burning. The following information has been provided by the Landowner in accordance with Section 5(b)(iii) of S.I. 286 of 2009, Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009, as amended.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I wish to advise that controlled burning (Bushes) will take place on the following:

Dates: _____

Starting at: _____ **and finishing at:** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone No.: _____

Location of Burning: _____
(Please insert the **Townland** name and **County** in full)

Fire Station Area: _____
(If Known)

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

ERCC will **not** record any details in relation to controlled burning unless they receive this "ERCC Email Notification – Controlled Burning" form from Offaly County Council which indicates that they have been notified of the intention to carry out a controlled burn. Fire Charges may be levied in the event that notification is not given and the Fire Service is mobilised.

IF IN DOUBT DO NOT BURN



Controlled Burning - Fire Safety Checklist:

The person wishing to carry out controlled burning should use the following checklist to ensure that the controlled burn is carried out in a safe manner. The signed checklist must be submitted with the ERCC Email Notification – Controlled Burning form.

I, _____, of _____

- I confirm that the fire is absolutely necessary.
- I confirm that I have the ability to stop the fire if the need arises.
- The fire will be located more than 1 mile from any woodland or forest.
- I am certain that my property and my neighbour's property will be safe.
- I am sure that smoke from the fire will not cause a nuisance to others, road users and neighbours in particular.
- I have alerted my neighbours and the relevant authorities of my intention to burn.
- I have sufficient help and equipment on standby to control the planned fire.
- I have adequate means of communication and the necessary contact details should an emergency arise.
- I confirm that material being burnt as part of this permit has not been cut between 1st March and 31st August as prescribed by Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.
- I can confirm that no wildlife has made a nest, den or other such home in the material that I intend to burn, and that I am in compliance any relevant requirements of the Wildlife Act, 1976 (as amended).
- I WILL NOTIFY THE FIRE SERVICE REGIONAL CONTROL CENTRE (E.R.C.C.) UPON COMMENCEMENT AND COMPLETION OF THE CONTROLLED BURNING ON THE 0818-300-112 NON EMERGENCY LINE.**
- I confirm that I will make sure that the fire is out upon leaving
- I confirm that the wood being burned is uncontaminated wood - this means that it is free of dangerous substances, preservatives, paints or varnishes, or other artificial impregnation or coating and excludes garden and park wastes and cemetery wastes and waste arising from infrastructural development works)
- I confirm that I will personally undertake a risk assessment prior to starting the fire to check that it is safe to proceed having particular regard to: Wind direction and speed; proximity to public roads, other people in the area, relevant boundaries, buildings, hedgerows and other potentially combustible material.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please also refer to general advice given in this document

Further information on burning and good agricultural practices is available from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine at the following link: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/land-and-forest-fires/>

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Statutory Notice

Checklist of advance information to be provided by a person to a local authority concerning the proposed burning of agricultural waste in accordance with the provisions of WASTE MANAGEMENT (PROHIBITION OF WASTE DISPOSAL BY BURNING) REGULATIONS 2009, Regulation 5(1)(a).

Name: (block capitals)

Address: (correspondence address)

Telephone:

Local authority administrative area: Offaly

I hereby give notice to **Offaly County Council** of my intention to burn waste solely consisting of uncontaminated (free of dangerous substances, preservatives or other artificial impregnation or coating) wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves, or brush, or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices (but excluding garden and park wastes and cemetery wastes and waste arising from infrastructural development works)

on (give the proposed date of the burning)

at (location where proposed burning will take place).

Declaration of suitability:

I declare that such burning will be done as a final measure following the application of the following waste hierarchy:

- i. reduction of waste arisings in accordance with best agricultural practice,
- ii. reuse of waste where practicable,
- iii. recycling of waste through shredding and use as compost or wood chippings, where practicable,
- iv. salvage of waste for use as fuel, where practicable,
- v. disposal, where none of the options at (i) to (iv) above are practicable or economically viable but subject to the following conditions—

(I) adequate measures will be taken to limit the overall nuisance or possibilities for endangering human health or causing environmental pollution, and

(II) no accelerants will be used when undertaking the disposal activity.

Signed:

Date: