

OPEN BURNING INFORMATION SHEET

Definition of Open burning- is hereby defined as the ignition and subsequent burning of any combustible material (garbage, leaves, grass, twigs, litter, paper, vegetative matter involved with land clearing or any other sort of debris) out of doors in either a burn barrel (screened or unscreened), fire ring, or on the ground. Exemption is given to fires for the exclusive purpose of food preparation

Examples of exemptions: Chicken bar-b-que pits, camp fires for cooking, out-door fire place/pits in masonry enclosure, enclosed incinerators

The Lancaster County Resolution goes into effect on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at 10 am. It will automatically be in effect for 30 days (Oct. 16, 2010). The ban can be extended or lifted early upon the recommendation of the District Forester to the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners.

The ban can be enforced by any sworn police officer in accordance with the provisions of State Law Act 1995-52

A person who violates this Resolution commits a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to a fine of not more than \$100.00 for the first offense, \$200.00 for the 2nd and \$300.00 for any additional.

RESOLUTION NO.# 83 OF 2010

On the motion of Commissioner Stuckey, seconded by Commissioner Lehman:

**ESTABLISHING A BAN ON OPEN BURNING
IN LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

WHEREAS, The County Commissioners are desirous of providing for the health, safety and welfare of the people of Lancaster County: and

WHEREAS, Significant brush and woods fires have occurred recently, and the wildfire potential is currently very high throughout Lancaster County due to the lack of recent rainfall and the unseasonably warm temperatures; and

WHEREAS, The District Forester, on behalf of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the fire chiefs of many Lancaster County fire companies have expressed concern that this fire potential poses a serious threat to life and property in Lancaster County; and

WHEREAS, Emergency measures are required to reduce the severity of this danger in order to protect the health, safety, welfare and property of the residents of Lancaster County.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the undersigned Commissioners of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, pursuant to the provisions of Act 1995-52 and Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code (35 PA C.S.), as amended, do hereby establish a temporary 30-day countywide ban on any and all open outdoor burning. This burn ban shall supercede any municipal ordinance to the contrary.

Open burning is hereby defined as the ignition and subsequent burning of any combustible material (garbage, leaves, grass, twigs, litter, paper, vegetative matter involved with land clearing or any other sort of debris) out-of-doors in either a burn barrel (screened or unscreened), fire ring, or on the ground. Exemption is given to fires for the exclusive purpose of food preparation.

Enforcement of this ban shall be the responsibility of any sworn police officer, in accordance with the provisions of Act 1995-52.

Penalty – a person who violates this resolution commits a summary offense and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not more than \$100.00 for the first offense, \$200.00 for the second offense and \$300.00 for the third and subsequent offenses.

“continued”

Resolution NO.#83 of 2010

Page 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we direct the Lancaster County Emergency Management Coordinator to ensure the widespread publication and distribution of this burn ban to all media; to coordinate the enforcement of this ban with all law enforcement agencies in accordance with Act 1995-52; to take all appropriate action needed to coordinate response to the dangers posed by the unusually dry conditions; and to take any other emergency management action deemed necessary to respond to this imminent threat to the health, safety and welfare of the people of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

This Declaration shall take effect at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 16, 2010.

ATTEST:

Andrea McCue, Chief Clerk
Lancaster County, PA
Adopted: September 14, 2010

Scott Martin, Chairman

Dennis Stuckey, Vice Chairman

Craig Lehman

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA