

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING AND RESTRICTING OUTDOOR FIRES WITHIN PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.**

The Supervisors of Pleasant Township ordain as follows:

**Article 1 – General**

**Section 1 – Title**

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the Pleasant Township Outdoor Burning Ordinance.

**Section 2 – Definitions**

The following terms, phrases, and words shall have the meaning given herein for the purpose of this Ordinance. Words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural include the singular interpretation, words in the singular number include the plural number, and the word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely suggestive.

- A. “Township” is the Township of Pleasant that is located within the confines of Warren County, Pennsylvania.
- B. “Board of Supervisors” is the Board of Supervisors of Pleasant Township, Warren County.
- C. “Owner” is a person owning, leasing, occupying, or having charge of any premises within the Township.
- D. “Garbage” is any animal or vegetable waste resulting from the preparation, cooking, or consumption of food. Such waste is generally non-combustible and decays in air resulting in unpleasant odors and attraction of insects or rodents.

E. Burnable "Trash" or "Rubbish" - is all solid waste (excluding body waste) that includes, but is not limited to, paper, cardboard, wood, tree and shrub branches, and similar materials that are combustible and deemed no longer suitable for use.

F. Non-burnable "Trash" or "Rubbish" - includes tires, shingles, plastic items, mattresses, bedding, rugs, paints, insulated electrical wire, vinyl siding, etc. that are combustible but generate noxious fumes and smoke. These items shall not be burned in outside fires within the Township.

### **Section 3 - General**

Campfires for recreation or outdoor cooking and out-of-door fires for the burning of "burnable" rubbish and other waste materials are permitted in Residential, Commercial, and in Agricultural – Conservation – Recreation (ACR) districts within Pleasant Township. These areas and districts are zoned under the Warren County Zoning Ordinance of 1965, as amended.

Restrictions on outdoor burning take effect during such times as the local representatives of the Forestry Bureau of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources and the Allegheny National Forest determine and advise that the same would be dangerous and hazardous because of existing drought or the dry condition of natural vegetation. These agencies request the County Commissioners of the four counties containing the Allegheny National Forest to issue a burning ban. When Warren County Commissioners issue a burning ban, the ban is in effect for the entire Warren County.

The use of charcoal grills, gas grills, or attended campfires for recreation, warming, or cooking is permitted during a "normal" burning ban. If a "high level" burning ban is declared and the use of open-fire grills and campfires is specifically cited as being prohibited, then such use would be unlawful.



## **Article 2: Other Restrictions on Burning**

### **Section 1 – Burning Prohibited on Streets**

No person or persons shall set or maintain any fire upon any street, road, right-of-way, sidewalk, alley, or on public grounds in Pleasant Township or burn or cause to be burned thereon any firewood, rubbish (including paper and leaves), or other combustible material or substance of any kind.

### **Section 2 – Open Burning on Commercial Property**

Every out-of-door fire built by any commercial business on commercial property in Pleasant Township shall be confined in a non-combustible container covered with a suitable, non-combustible screen of one-half inch (1/2") or smaller mesh. No out-of-door fire shall be closer than twenty feet (20 ft.) from any building.

### **Section 3 – Open Burning on Private Property**

Campfires and out-of-doors fires for the burning of trash or rubbish shall be permitted upon private property within all areas of Pleasant Township provided that the following regulations and restrictions are strictly adhered to:

- A. No out-of-door fire shall be closer than twenty feet (20 ft.) from any building.
- B. Trash or rubbish fires are permitted on any day of the week but only during daylight hours. Attended campfires are permitted at any time during the week.
- C. Any fire shall be constantly attended and a water supply or proper fire extinguishing equipment shall be available during the entire time the fire is burning. The attendant shall take such steps as may be necessary to confine ash and debris within the property

where the fire is burning and shall control the fire to prevent it spreading to any adjoining property.

D. No garbage or organic waste shall be put into an out-of-doors fire for disposal. Also, no paint, tires, mattresses, rugs, vinyl siding, oil, grease, gasoline, or other organic solvents that are dangerous when ignited or which can generate obnoxious smoke or odors shall be burned.

E. No leaf piles shall be burned in those areas of Pleasant Township where the Township provides leaf pickup.

### **Article 3: Penalty for Violation**

Any person who violates or fails to conform to any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon conviction thereof, the violator may be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and costs of prosecution or, in default of payment of such fine and costs, shall be liable to imprisonment for not more than five (5) days.

### **Article 4: Ordinance in Effect**

This Ordinance supercedes all previous burning ordinances or amendments thereof and shall become effective five (5) days after the adoption hereof.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED into law by Pleasant Township, Warren County, Pennsylvania this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2007.

ATTEST:

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

*Paula M. Atwood*  
Secretary

*Mark Wolf*  
Chairman

*Aiden W. Knapp*  
Vice Chairman

*James R. Perrill*

{SEAL}