

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY  
BY-LAW NO. 2015-35**

**BEING A BY-LAW FOR ESTABLISHING REQUIRMENTS FOR OPEN AIR BURNING IN  
THE TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY**

**WHEREAS** the Fire Code, paragraph 2.6.3.4, provides that open air burning shall not be permitted unless approved by the Fire Chief, or designate, or unless such burning consists of a small, confined fire, supervised at all times, and used to cook food on a grill or a *barbeque*;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997, c. 4, as amended, provides:

In section 7.1(1)(a) that a council of a municipality may pass by-laws regulating fire prevention, including the prevention of spreading of fires;

In section 7.1(1)(b) that a council of a municipality may pass by-laws regulating the setting of open air fires, including establishing the times during which open air fires may be set;

In section 7.1(3) that a by-law passed under section 7.1 may deal with different areas of the municipality differently;

In section 7.1(4) that a municipality may appoint an officer to enter upon land and into structures at any reasonable time to inspect the land and structures to determine whether by-laws enacted in accordance with this section are being complied with;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, provides:

In section 10 (2) that a municipality may pass by-laws respecting: 5. Economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality; 6. Health safety and well-being of persons; 8. Protection of persons and property; 10. Structures, including fences and signs;

In section 391 that a municipality is authorized to pass by-laws imposing fees or charges on persons for services or activities provided or done by it or on behalf of it, and for the use of its property including property under its control;

In section 446 (1) that if a municipality has authority under the Act or under a by-law under this or any other Act to direct or require a person to do a matter or thing, the municipality may also provide that, in default of being done by the person directed or required to do it, the matter or thing shall be done at the person's expense;

In section 446 (2) for the purposes of subsection (1), the municipality may enter upon land at any reasonable time;

In section 446 (3) that the municipality may recover the costs of doing a matter or thing under subsection (1) from the person directed or required to do it by action or by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the Township of Admaston/Bromley enacts as follows:

**1.0 DEFINITIONS**

In this by-law,

**"Approved Pit"** means an area of ground that has been completely cleared of combustible material and lined with a minimum thickness of 15 cm (6 inches) of sand or mineral soil that will extend a minimum of 30 cm (12 inches) beyond the limit of the fuel used for a Campfire.

**"Authorized Agent"** means any person authorized by the Fire Chief or the Council of the Township to carry out those duties.

**"By-law Enforcement Officer"** means a person appointed by Council of the Township as a by-law enforcement officer for the Township.

**“Burn Barrel”** means any container regardless of size or construction, covered with a screen having a mesh size of not more than 5 mm in which a fire can be set or maintained for the burning of materials.

**"Campfire"** means an Open Air Fire, having a maximum fuel volume of .6 metres x .6 metres x .6 metres (2 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet), that is set or maintained in an approved pit or outdoor fireplace and is used solely for the purposes of cooking food, providing warmth or recreational enjoyment.

**“Household Waste”** means any Solid waste, composed of garbage and rubbish, which normally originates in a private home or apartment house.

**“Incinerator”** Means any enclosed chamber constructed for the purpose of burning materials but not an outdoor furnace.

**“Investigator”** Means the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, Police Officer or By-Law Enforcement Officer of the Township.

**“Open Air Fire”** means a fire set in the open air for the purpose of burning grass or brush or other approved combustible material, and includes fires in incinerators and pits, but does not include campfires or barbeques.

**“Outdoor furnace”** means, but is not limited to, any enclosed device, appliance, equipment apparatus or structure that is designed, intended and/or used to provide heat and/or hot water to any associated structure, that operates by burning wood or any other fuel, including, but not limited to, paper pellets and agricultural products, is not located within the structure to be heated, and includes, but is not limited to, devices referred to as wood furnaces, outdoor boilers and outdoor stoves covered with a screen having a mesh size of not more than 5mm.

**"Permit"** means a permit issued by the Fire Chief, or Deputy Fire Chief signifying permission to set or maintain or allow being set or maintained an Open Air Fire and establishing the conditions under which the permission is granted.

**"Person"** includes an association, firm partnership, or corporation.

**“Prohibited Materials”** Shall mean any materials such as but not limited to household waste, petroleum products, plastics, rubber, painted lumber, tires, furniture, carpeting, styrofoam or any other item that could cause noxious or toxic smoke or fumes.

**"Township"** means the Corporation of the Township of Admaston/Bromley

## **2.0 GENERAL REGULATIONS**

2.1 No Person shall at any time:

- (a) Without first obtaining a Permit from the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief set, maintain or allow being set or maintained any open air fire that is not a campfire maintained within an approved pit.
- (b) Further to Section 2.1 a) above, no Fire Permits shall be issued from April 15<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup> inclusive. **(By-Law 2018-46)**
- (c) Burn any prohibited materials such as but not limited to household waste, petroleum products, plastics, rubber, painted lumber, tires, furniture, carpeting, styrofoam or any other item that could cause noxious or toxic smoke or fumes.
- (d) No person shall at any time burn any materials where the smoke from such fire impedes visibility on any public thoroughfare, or has a negative impact on neighbouring person's or properties.
- (e) Set, maintain or cause to be set or maintained any Open Air Fire:

- (i) That is not a campfire at any time within the geographical confines of the Hamlet of Douglas except at a location approved by the Fire Chief or a firefighter designated by the Fire Chief.
  - (ii) That is not a campfire at any time within the geographical confines of the Hamlet of Osceola.
  - (iii) That is oversize having a maximum fuel volume greater than 2 metres in diameter and 1 meter high except at a location approved by the Fire Chief or a firefighter designated by the Fire Chief.
  - (iv) That when burning grass or leaf litter the total area burned shall not exceed 1 hectare and that the flaming edge of the fire does not exceed 10 meters in length.
  - (v) Within 10 metres (app. 30 feet) of a building or wooded area.
  - (vi) Within 5 metres (app. 15 feet) of any other flammable material.
- (f) Without a special permit issued by the Fire Chief burn any restricted material such as but not limited to:
- (i) A building or structure of any kind.
  - (ii) Any hay, straw or standing material.
  - (iii) Any green brush or wood.

2.2 No person shall at any time use or allow being used a burn barrel, incinerator or any similar device to burn any materials:

- (a) Within the geographical confines of the Hamlet of Douglas
- (b) Within the geographical confines of the Hamlet of Osceola.

2.3 Where burn barrels or incinerators are permitted they may be used to burn dry non-glossy paper, cardboard and natural vegetation with supervision.

2.4 Where burn barrels or incinerators are permitted no person shall at any time burn or allow to be burned any household waste or prohibited materials.

2.5 Outdoor Furnaces

- (a) No person shall at any time burn or allow to be burned any household waste or prohibited materials in any outdoor furnace.
- (b) Dry non-glossy paper, cardboard and natural vegetation may be burned in an outdoor furnace.

### **3.0 SAFETY**

3.1 No person shall at any time set, maintain or allow to be set or maintained an Open Air Fire:

- (a) Unless a person over the age of 18 is in attendance and shall supervise all Open Air Fires until they are fully extinguished.
- (b) Unless equipment and other resources capable of controlling and extinguishing an Open Air Fire are available and maintained at the site until the fire is fully extinguished.
- (c) Except a campfire in an approved pit, no earlier than two (2) hours before sunset and extinguished no later than two (2) hours after sunrise.
- (d) In the presence of any wind or wind gusts in excess of 15 Km/h or any other adverse burning conditions. i.e. dry weather

- 3.2 Every person setting or maintaining a campfire shall ensure that such campfire is set or maintained in an approved pit and totally extinguished before leaving.

#### **4.0 FIRE BANS**

- 4.1 The Fire Chief may, at any time, and in the exercise of his or her sole discretion, issue a fire ban, effective for a specified period of time, prohibiting the setting of any and all Open Air Fires within any area of the Township based on MNR Guidelines, MNR indices rating or local conditions.
- 4.2 No person shall at any time while a level one (1) fire ban is in effect set, maintain or allow any open air fire other than a campfire.
- 4.3 No person shall at any time while a level two (2) fire ban is in effect:
- (a) Set, maintain or allow any open air fire including but not limited to any open air fire set for the purpose of burning natural vegetation, grass or other approved materials:
  - (b) Set maintain or allow any open air fire including but not limited to campfires, outdoor fireplaces or other outdoor appliances that burn any fuel producing an open flame.
  - (c) Set, maintain or allow a fire in any burn barrel or incinerator.
  - (d) Enclosed Barbeques fueled by Propane or Briquettes are exempt from section 4.3 (b) of this by-law
- 4.4 The Fire Chief will assess the need for a total or partial Fire Ban on a daily basis and will downgrade or cancel the Fire Ban as soon as possible based on MNR indices rating and local conditions.
- 4.5 Revocation of Permits
- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this by-law, the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief may revoke any or all permits, or refuse to issue permits where one or more of the following conditions exist in respect of, or in proximity to, the proposed Open Air Fire Site:
    - (i) A lack of precipitation that, in the opinion of the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief, increases the risk of the spread of fire;
    - (ii) Winds that, in the opinion of the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief, increase the risk of the spread of fire;
    - (iii) The issuance, by the Fire Chief, Fire Marshall, or other fire officials in the exercise of their statutory powers, of a fire ban or prohibition against any and all Open Air Fires; or
    - (iv) Any other condition that in the opinion of the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief will increase the risk of the spread of fire.

#### **5.0 ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

This by-law shall be administered and enforced by the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, By-law Enforcement Officer, Police Officer or such other person as Council of the Township may designate.

#### **6.0 INSPECTION POWERS**

- 6.1 An Investigator may at any time inspect any Open Air Fire to ensure that the provisions of this by-law have been and are being complied with and the person who has the care and control of such fire shall provide the Investigator with free and unobstructed access to the Open Air Fire.
- 6.2 Upon inspection under section 5 above, the Investigator:

- a) Is entitled to request and have produced any relevant Permits issued in respect of the Open Air Fire that is being inspected; and;
- b) May, where there are reasonable and probable grounds that any offence under this by-law has been committed, request any person believed to have committed such offence to provide suitable identification and information, and
- c) May, where there are reasonable and probable grounds that any offence under this by-law has been committed, order the person or persons to immediately extinguish the fire.

## **7.0 REMEDIAL ACTION - COSTS**

- 7.1 Any person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence and may be subject to such fees or charges as laid out in Schedule "B" to this by-law;
- 7.2 Should the Township, through the Fire Department, or its authorized agent extinguish, demolish or repair property or, take any or all measures to terminate the danger of unauthorized activity, the Township may recover all of the expenses incurred in respect thereof by any or all of the methods provided for in Section 446 of the Municipal Act, 2001 in addition to any other fees or charges prescribed. The person or persons responsible for setting, maintaining, or permitting to be set or maintained an Open Air Fire shall be liable to the Township by way of a fee or charge, in accordance with Schedule "B" to this by-law, on account of those costs and expenses incurred by the Township in:
  - a. Investigating and responding to a complaint made to the Township or the Fire Department by any person acting reasonably and in good faith of a possible contravention of section 2 of this by-law.
  - b. The dispatching of Fire Department vehicles and fire-fighting personnel for the purpose of extinguishing the Open Air Fire.
  - c. Investigating any complaint from any person acting reasonably and in good faith, which complaint results from setting and/or maintenance of an Open Air Fire and, in the opinion of the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designate smoke or emissions from such Open Air Fire are contrary to the guidelines that are detailed in section 3 of this by-law.
- 7.3 All fees and charges payable under this by-law are due and owing to the Township within thirty (30) days of the date of an invoice rendered to the person liable to pay them.
- 7.4 All overdue accounts shall accrue interest at the rate of 1.25% per month (15% per annum), calculated monthly, from the due date until paid in full.
- 7.5 All fees and charges payable under this by-law constitute a debt of the person liable for payment of them to the Township and, in the case of owners of a property being responsible for payment of the fees and charges, the Township may add the amount owing to the tax roll for the owner(s) real property and collect them in like manner as municipal taxes.
- 7.6 If a person who sets or maintains an Open Air Fire in contravention of this by-law is not the owner of the property but occupies or is using the property with the owners consent, the owner and the person conducting the open air burning shall be jointly and severally liable to pay any fees and charges imposed by this by-law.

## **8.0 PENALTY PROVISIONS**

Every person who contravenes or causes or permits the contravention of any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine, pursuant to the provisions of the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, as amended as laid out in Schedule "A" to this by-Law.

**9.0 SEVERABILITY**

A decision of a competent court that one or more provisions of this by-Law are invalid in whole or in part does not affect the validity, effectiveness or enforce ability of the other provisions or part of provisions of this by-Law.

**10.0 BY-LAW NO. 2010-50 and BY-LAW NO. 2012-48 are hereby repealed.**

**11.0 BY-LAW COMING INTO EFFECT**

This by-law shall come into force on the day it is passed.

Dated at the Township of Admaston/Bromley this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2015

Read a first and second time this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2015

Read a third time and finally passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2015

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY**  
**Part 1 Provincial Offences Act**  
**By-Law No. 2015-35 Open Air Burning**  
**Schedule "A"**  
**Schedule of Fines**

Item	Column 1 Short Form Wording	Column 2 Provision creating or defining offence	Column 3 Set fine
1	Set, Maintain or allow an open air fire without a permit	2.1 (a)	450.00
2	Burn prohibited materials	2.1 (b)	250.00
3	Impede visibility public thoroughfare	2.1 (c)	250.00
4	Set or maintain open air fire Hamlet of Douglas	2.1 (e)(i)	250.00
5	Set or maintain open air fire Hamlet of Osceola	2.1 (e)(ii)	250.00
6	Set or maintain an oversize open air fire	2.1 (e)(iii)	250.00
7	Burn grass or leaf litter oversize area	2.1 (e)(iv)	250.00
8	Set or maintain an open air fire within 10 meters of a building or wooded area	2.1 (e)(v)	250.00
9	Set or maintain an open air burn within 5 meters of flammable material	2.1 (e)(vi)	250.00
10	Burn restricted materials, no special permit	2.1 (f)	450.00
11	Use a burn Barrel or Incinerator in Hamlet of Douglas	2.2 (a)	250.00
12	Use a burn Barrel or Incinerator in the Hamlet of Osceola	2.2 (b)	250.00
13	Burn household waste or prohibited materials in a burn barrel or incinerator	2.4	250.00
14	Burn Household waste or prohibited materials in an outdoor furnace	2.5 (a)	450.00
15	Set or maintain open air fire underage supervision	3.1 (a)	250.00
16	Set or maintain open air fire no fire control measures on site	3.1 (b)	250.00
17	Set or maintain open air fire non approved times	3.1 (c)	250.00
18	Set or maintain open air fire adverse burning conditions	3.1 (d)	250.00
19	Campfire not set or maintained in an approved pit	3.2	250.00
20	Set or maintain an open air fire during a level 1 fire ban	4.2	450.00
21	Set or maintain an open air fire during a level 2 fire ban	4.3 (a)	450.00
22	Set, maintain or allow any campfires during a level 2 fire ban	4.3 (b)	450.00
23	Set, maintain or allow any fire in any burn barrel or incinerator during a level 2 fire ban.	4.3 (c)	450.00

NOTE: The general penalty provisions for the offences listed above is section 8 of By-Law 2015-35, a certified copy of which is on file.

## **SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW NO. 2015-35**

### Schedule of Fees

1. Fees to respond to and investigate a complaint in regards to a possible violation under Section 2.0 about open air burning
  - a. Fee of \$75.00 per response payable by the permit holder or person setting, maintaining, or allowing such fire to be lit if the complaint is substantiated
  - b. Fee of \$75.00 per response payable by the complainant if the complaint is not substantiated
    - (i) Fee may be waived at the discretion of the investigator if in their opinion the complaint was reasonable and made in good faith, but investigation showed no violation under any section of this by-law had occurred.
2. Cost Recovery Fees:
  - a. Dispatch of Fire-fighters - (to be calculated at \$25 per hour for a minimum of 2 hours per fireman responding to the scene and calculated on one half hour increments thereafter).
  - b. Dispatch of Fire Response vehicles actively involved in fighting the fire. - First hour (or part thereof) \$410.00 per vehicle, each additional half hour \$205.00 per vehicle.
  - c. Actual costs incurred by the Township for additional firefighting support from other outside agencies.



## SCHEDULE "C" TO BY-LAW NO. 2015-35

### Open Air Burning Permit

- (a) A person over the age of 18 is in attendance and shall supervise all Open Air Fires until they are fully extinguished.
- (b) Equipment and other resources capable of controlling and quickly extinguishing Open Air Fires shall be available and maintained at the site of the fire at all times.
- (c) Hours of all fires set outdoors shall be no earlier than two (2) hours before sunset and extinguished no later than two (2) hours after sunrise, or earlier except a campfire in an approved pit.
- (d) No Open Air Fires be set in the presence of any wind or wind gusts in excess of 15 Km/h or any other adverse burning conditions.