

City of Bristol Tennessee

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CONTACT: Bob Barnes, Fire Chief
Bristol Fire Department
Phone: 423-989-5701
E-Mail: rbarnes@bristoltn.org

City Officials Announce Fire Ban

No rain, hot weather, and just a little breeze can create a real danger and a perfect recipe for a fire.

A string of triple-digit temperatures are in the forecast in the next few days. City officials have announced a ban on open burning within city limits due to the dry weather northeast Tennessee has been experiencing. Assistant Fire Chief, Jack Spurgeon said, "With the weather conditions we are experiencing, it has become extremely dangerous for any type of outdoor burning. The fire department is placing a city-wide burning ban to remain in effect until further notice."

State law imposes certain restrictions on outside fires but during normal conditions limited types of outdoor burning are allowed after obtaining a permit from the fire department. There is no fee for the permit. Requiring a permit provides fire officials the opportunity to explain any restrictions, and to also provide information relating to the city's policy concerning outdoor fires.

The burning permit only allows burning as specified by both state law and the International Fire Code. A permit expires three months from the date of issue and only three permits can be obtained for one location during a twelve-month period. City residents can obtain a burning permit between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Central Fire Station located at 211 Bluff City Highway.

Spurgeon adds that the Bristol Tennessee Fire Department is always ready and willing to provide the public with useful safety advice for the home or work place but cautions everyone that illegal outdoor burning can lead to fines up to \$25,000. Possessing a City Burning Permit does not authorize burning at anytime when a ban is in effect.

For more information on the fire ban and permits, contact the Bristol Tennessee Fire Department at 423-989-5701.