

---

TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON

---

AN ORDINANCE

No. 98-1

---

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON, LYCOMING COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE 88-3 ENACTED JULY 12, 1988 RESTRICTING FIRES AND OPEN BURNING AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION.

BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Supervisors of Clinton Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania ("Township") and it is hereby ENACTED and ORDAINED by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION I. DEFINITIONS: As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated unless a difference meaning clearly appears from the context:

- A. CONTROLLED BURNING - A fire ignited or fed for the destruction of brush, tree limbs, and other foliage materials for the specific purpose of clearing landscape, etc.
- B. GARBAGE - All putrescible animal and vegetable matter or other organic substance subject to fermentation or decay including bottles or tin cans which contain animal, fish, vegetable or other organic matter.
- C. RUBBISH - Solids not considered to be highly flammable or explosive including but not limited to rags, old clothes, leather, rubber, carpets, wood, paper, ashes, tree branches, tree leaves, yard trimmings, furniture and other similar materials.
- D. REFUSE - Garbage, rubbish and trade waste.
- E. TRADE WASTE - All solid or liquid material or rubbish resulting from construction, building operations or the prosecution of any business, trade or industry including, but not limited to, plastic products, cartons, paint, grease, oil and other petroleum products, chemicals, cinders and other forms of solid



or liquid waste materials.

SECTION II. ENFORCEMENT: The Clinton Township Supervisors shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. Furthermore, a chief officer of the Clinton Township Fire Company and the Clinton Township Police Department shall have the power to extinguish any fire which, in their opinion, violates this Ordinance, said extinguishment to be done at the cost of the person violating this Ordinance.

SECTION III. REGULATIONS: Within Clinton Township, and subject to the exceptions set forth below, no person shall,

- (a) Ignite or feed a fire for the destruction of refuse,
- (b) Ignite or feed any fire for the destruction of any material in such a way as to violate any regulations established by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources,
- (c) Ignite or feed any fire for the destruction of any material in such a way as to cause unreasonable annoyance to neighbors or persons in the vicinity of the burning,
- (d) Ignite or feed any fire closer than fifteen (15) feet from any building or property line,
- (e) Ignite or feed any fire during "severe winds" or "dry time" as these terms are defined by the Pennsylvania Departmental Resources, Department of Forestry.
- (f) Ignite or feed any fire for the destruction of any material in areas of Clinton Township zoned C-1 (Commercial District), I-1 (Industrial District), and I-2 (Industrial District) as set forth in the Clinton Township Zoning Ordinance No. 87-1, as amended.

SECTION IV. EXCEPTIONS - the following exceptions shall apply to Section III (a), (b) and (c) only. There shall be no exceptions to Section III (d), (e) and (f)

- (a) A person may burn leaves or grass on their own property; provided:

- (1) The burning is not to be done on a right-of-way, alley or sidewalk.
- (2) The fire is to be attended at all times by a person 16 years of age or older.
- (3) Water or other means to extinguish the fire must be readily available to prevent the fire from getting out of control.
- (4) The burning takes place only between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. except during daylight savings time when the burning may take place between 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. and excepting that no burning shall take place, whatsoever, on Sundays or holidays.

(b) A person may burn paper on their own property; provided:

- (1) The burning is confined to a non-combustible container covered with a screen with 1/2" or smaller mesh or other similar container approved by the Clinton Township Fire Department.
- (2) The fire is to be attended at all times by a responsible person.
- (3) The burning takes place only between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. except during daylight savings time when the burning may take place between 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. and excepting that no burning shall take place, whatsoever, on Sundays or holidays.

(c) A controlled burning may be permitted on a person's own property; provided:

- (1) The Lycoming County Communications Center is notified immediately before and immediately after the controlled burning.
- (2) A chief officer of the Clinton Township Fire Company must be notified of the nature of the controlled burning and the date thereof.



- (3) The controlled burning is to be carried out in accordance with the restrictions, rules and regulations set by a chief officer, of the Clinton Township Fire Chief.
- (d) A person may make or set a bonfire on their own property; provided:
    - (1) A permit specifying the nature of the event and the date thereof is obtained from a chief officer of the Clinton Township Fire Company.
    - (2) A bonfire is carried out in accordance with the restrictions, rules or regulations set forth on the permit issued by a chief officer of the Clinton Township Fire Company.
  - (f) Charcoal and wood burning fires for the preparation of foods or family or neighborhood gatherings shall not be prohibited by this Ordinance, provided that such fires are kindled or maintained with reasonable safeguards to prevent dangerous burning and to prevent the emission of noxious or offensive fumes or odors.

SECTION V. PENALTIES: Any person who violates or permits the violation of this Ordinance shall, upon being found liable therefore in a civil enforcement proceeding commenced by the Township, pay a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 plus all court costs, including reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the Township.

SECTION VI. REPEALER: All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION VII. SEVERABILITY: If any sentence, clause, section, or part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Clinton Township Supervisors that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included herein.

SECTION VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after the adoption hereof.

ENACTED and ORDAINED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1998.

CLINTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

  
Diane F. Sampsell  
Diane F. Sampsell, Secretary

Todd R. Pysher  
Todd R. Pysher, Chairman

Harold E. Swisher  
Harold Swisher, Supervisor

Diane F. Sampsell  
Diane F. Sampsell, Supervisor