

Quick Reference Guide

The State of Kansas has adopted KAR 28-19-645 as the regulation for open burning which states that there shall be no open burning of any materials unless covered by the expectations provided in KAR 28-19-647 & 648

Exemptions can be granted by obtaining the proper permit from KDHE and any local authority with jurisdiction over the premises. Local authorities have the right to be more stringent than state regulations and may have additional burning restrictions or bans. Therefore, always contact the local authority prior to burning.

The following describes some, but not all, of the requirements and exemptions associated with the Kansas open burning regulation.

Residential Exemptions

For residential, premises that contain five or less dwelling units, open burning is allowed when burn barrels are used for burning domestic trash only.

General Public Exemptions

The public can open burn when cooking or for ceremonial purposes, on public or private land used for recreational purposes.

Business Exemptions

If you are a business, then burning requires a KDHE permit. The permit includes trees and brush from non-agricultural land clearing. Other items may be allowed upon review and with use of an air curtain destructor.

Agricultural Exemptions

Before burning proceeds, the local jurisdiction must be notified unless it has a policy that notification is not required. Agricultural open burning includes burning of grass, wood species, crop residue, and other dry plant growth for the management of crop, range, pastures, wildlife, and watersheds.



Kansas Open Burning Regulations KAR 28-19-645-648

Public Health

Permits can be obtained for those situations that are not already exempted of if there is no other practical means of disposal if it involves fires related to the training of government or industrial personnel in the firefighting procedures. Specific conditions must be followed for fires set for the removal of dangerous or hazardous liquid materials and in the interest of public health.

Other Guidelines

A person shall not burn heavy smoke producing materials including heavy oils, tires, and tarpaper.

These guidelines should be followed during all burn events.

- Avoid cloudy days or with a low cloud cover.
- Burn during daylight hours and do not add material two hours prior to sunset.
- Wind speeds should be between 5 to 15 mph.
- Do not create a traffic hazard with burning.
- Supervise your fire until it is out.
- Be courteous of neighbors – houses and businesses within 1,000 feet of a permitted burn must be notified.

When in doubt, call your KDHE District Office

KDHE Southeast District Office

1500 W 7th St
Chanute, KS 66720
620-431-2390