

# The Right To Enter and Enforce

The Fire Chief, his/her designate, or the West Elgin By-Law Official hold the right to enter a property without a warrant to investigate complaints and enforce the West Elgin Municipal Burn By-Law.

**By-Law No. 2014-69**  
**Regulate Open Air Burning**

For more information, visit the Ontario Fire Protection and Prevention Act: *under Part V*  
<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/97f04#BK17>

## File A Complaint

Have concerns about unsafe burning? Fill out a complaint form and submit it to the Municipality so we can help address the issue.

Download the form on our website:  
[www.westelgin.net/residents/have-your-say](http://www.westelgin.net/residents/have-your-say)

or

Get one from the Municipal Office  
(22413 Hoskins Line, Rodney)



# Your Guide

## To Understanding West Elgin's Burning By-Law



## Report Burning Infractions

Report active burning infractions to  
The Fire Chief at:  
[firechief@westelgin.net](mailto:firechief@westelgin.net)

or

Call: 519-785-0560  
Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm  
After Hours: 911

For more information please visit:  
[www.westelgin.net/services/bylaws](http://www.westelgin.net/services/bylaws)

or

Call: 519-785-0560

## Campfires

- Must be 4 meters away from any buildings
- Must be kept in a contained unit
- The materials to be burned are less than 26" high or wide in diameter

## Open Burns

- Fires must be 30 meters away from any building
- Materials to be burned cannot exceed 9 meters squared and 2 meters high
- Open Burns require a burn permit

## Acceptable Burning Materials For Open Burns And Campfires:

- Wood and wood by-products (unpainted and untreated)
- Dry brush
- Charcoal
- White or brown paper/cardboard for starting a fire

Under **No** Circumstances are other materials such as **garbage, plastics or rubber**, allowed to be burned.

Open burns are **only** permitted in Agriculturally zoned property and **only** with a burn permit.



## Safety Tips

### Choose a safe time

Burn during the coolest, dampest and calmest time of the day: 2 hours before sunset, or later.

### Stay with your fire

If you start a fire outdoors, you must tend the fire, keep it under control, and extinguish it before leaving the site.

## It's The Law!

The Ontario Court of Justice has approved a set fine of **\$300** for the following offences:

1. Cooking fire and campfire exemptions aren't met
2. Burn barrels in areas other than Rural Area
3. Burning without notification form submitted
4. Burning items not permitted
5. No supervision by Responsible Person
6. Burning less than 30 meters from any building, combustible structure, & combustible vegetation
7. Burning during prohibited time period
8. Fire Dispatch not notified.
9. Burning of Rubbish
10. Burning during a fire ban

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Burning By-Law infractions may result in a **\$300** fine.