



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Open air burning and backyard fires in Wilmot

On April 3rd, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) issued a complete ban for “all zones in the fire region of Ontario”, which applies to northern Ontario (approximately Owen Sound area and north). This [link](#) shows where the MNR burn ban is in effect.

While we are not issuing any new burn permits, *Wilmot Township currently does not have a burn ban in effect*. People already holding valid contained site permits are still permitted to have backyard fires. However, it is the owner’s responsibility to understand and follow the current [burn by-law](#). During the pandemic, there will be zero tolerance for non-compliance. The Township will be laying charges and/or billing for fire department responses to calls where guidelines are not being followed. We need to reduce the number of calls and limit firefighter interaction so we can keep our firefighters safe and healthy when they must respond to critical emergencies.

For additional information, please contact:

Rod Leeson, Fire Chief

rod.leeson@wilmot.ca

Andrew Mechalko, Fire Prevention Officer

andrew.mechalko@wilmot.ca