



Orange County Emergency Services

A Prepared, Coordinated, and Integrated Emergency Services System

E-911 | Fire Marshal | EMS | Emergency Management

Fire Marshal

To: Cornwallis Hills Property Owners Association
407 Patriot Place
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Date: August 24, 2021

Ref: Outdoor Burning

Greetings from the Orange County Emergency Services Fire Marshal Division. Effective July 1, 2021 the Town of Hillsborough began contracting Fire Marshal services from Orange County. Since that time our office has taken several complaint calls regarding the matter of burning of yard waste. This letter is to address these concerns and provide clarification of what is allowable within the Town limits.

The Town of Hillsborough does not allow the burning of any materials within the Town limits for the purpose of disposal. There are a variety of reasons for this, including safety and air quality. The Town provides curbside pickup of residential waste and yard debris, thus eliminating the need for burning. More details regarding waste services are available on the Town of Hillsborough website.

Recreational fires are allowed for the purposes of heating and cooking when people are engaged in outdoor activities. Permits are not required for recreational fires. Fires for this purpose should be away from structures or in designed burn containment areas and must be attended to at all times. Suitable burning materials would be dried sticks and logs. There should be extinguishment provisions available such as a charged garden hose, a fire extinguisher, rake or shovel and/or a large bucket of water. The fire must be fully extinguished and doused when the fire will no longer be attended. While some people may not like the smell of burning wood, the State of North Carolina has deemed that the odor and smoke from natural materials is not a nuisance.

We are hoping you can pass this message on to the residents of your community. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact our office at 919-245-6100.

Respectfully,

David L. Cates
Assistant Fire Marshal

cc: Margaret Hauth, Assistant Town Manager – Town Of Hillsborough
Elizabeth Farnan, Interim Fire Marshal – Orange County