

Article I
Outdoor Burning

[Adopted 2-10-2015 by Ord. No. 15-1; amended in its entirety 8-11-2015]

§ 91-1 Purpose and authority.

The purpose of this article is to clarify the need for burning permits and liability for charges associated with a response by the Fire Departments and liability/responsibility for the fees for such response. This article is adopted pursuant to the authority of the Town under § 60.55(2)(b), Wis. Stats.

§ 91-2 Burning permits.

Prior to a creation of a fire, it shall be the responsibility of each person and/or property owner to notify the Marathon County Dispatch. Burning permits are not required in the Town as the Town is not a part of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Area.

§ 91-3 Liability for fire protection costs.

A. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

CONTROLLED SOURCE FIRE

Any fire in which its source is due to unforeseen circumstances/through no fault of the property owner. Examples include, but are not limited to, mechanical or electrical failure, act of nature, overheating equipment, chimney fire or arson.

UNCONTROLLED SOURCE FIRE

Any fire in which its source is a result of a person or persons lighting or creating a form of ignition and failing to confine the fire, allowing it to spread to other areas. Examples include, but are not limited to, burn barrels, leaf, grass and brush burning, camp fires, charcoal grills or fireworks.

B. Uncontrolled source fires. The property owner from where the fire originated shall be responsible for all fire protection expenses as billed to the Town and/or the property owner by the responding Fire Department(s). These charges may include where the fire spreads to neighboring properties. The Town shall not be responsible for any charges by the Fire Department(s) for uncontrolled source fires.

C. Controlled source fires. The property owner from where the fire originated will be responsible for up to \$1,000, of the fire call expenses as billed by the responding Fire Department(s). Any amount greater than \$1,000 shall be paid by the Town.