



ORDINANCE NO. 03-21

**OPEN BURNING RESTRICTIONS  
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

WHEREAS, open burning is an inefficient form of combustion and produces pollutants that are emitted near the ground level. These emissions coupled with poor dispersion result in the exposure of neighboring residents, who may include high risk groups, to poor air quality. High-risk groups include newborn infants, children, the elderly, and those with allergies, chronic respiratory, or cardiovascular conditions and constitute a portion of Boone County's population. Depending on the composition of the materials burned, air pollutants emitted may include particulate matter, heavy metal vapors, and acid gases. Heavy metals may also be found in ash remains. As a result of potential health hazards and nuisance conditions that result from open burning, Boone County has adopted regulations restricting the activity in the interest of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF BOONE, ILLINOIS, that Chapter 26, Section 26 of the Boone County Code is amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 26-1. Bonfire, unenclosed fires.**

It shall be unlawful to build or light any bonfire so close to any building or other structure, rural road, subdivision, or open space as to endanger such areas. No bonfire or fire other than one enclosed in a stove, furnace, incinerator, or fireplace shall be started or permitted to burn between the time of sunset and sunrise. This prohibition does not apply to recreational fires.

**Sec. 26-2. Prohibited Open Burning (applies to unincorporated areas only).**

The open burning of garbage, rubbish, and refuse is not allowed in any part of the County at any time pursuant to the Boone County Code of Ordinances, the International Fire Code, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, and other regulations. Refuse includes, but is not limited to, materials such as discarded paper, cardboard, lumber, metal, plastic, cloth, glass, rubber, ceramics, synthetic materials, construction and demolition debris, discarded household items, commercial/trade waste, animal carcasses, manure, rubbish, garbage, offsite-generated flora and landscape waste, and any discarded matter which is burned for waste disposal purposes. Onsite generated flora and landscape waste may be burned onsite. Burning in a metal drum or similar object is considered open burning.

**Sec. 26-3. Enforcement.**

(a) The Code Enforcement Officers (CEO) of the Boone County Building and Zoning Departments, the District Fire Departments and any other law enforcement officers, enforce the open burning regulations outlined under the Boone County Code and International Fire Code within unincorporated Boone County pertaining to open burning.

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(b) Violations of this ordinance are subject to a maximum fine of \$500 per conviction. There shall be a minimum fine of \$100 for each offense and each fine assessed shall be split equally between the County of Boone and the District Fire Department where the violation occurs. Each day that a violation exists constitutes a separate offense.

ADOPTED by the County Board, County of Boone, State of Illinois,  
this 11th day of June, 2003.

Susan L. Anderson, Chairman  
Boone County Board

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ATTEST:

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Sylvia E. Schroeder  
Boone County Clerk

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_\_\_