



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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- [Beware of burning: Rules on disposing of solid waste](#)
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Beware of burning: Rules on disposing of solid waste

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As the weather gradually warms up and spring cleaning begins, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is reminding residents of the open burning regulations.

Today's waste materials are filled with potentially toxic chemicals that are released to the atmosphere when burned, many of which weren't around 50 or 60 years ago. Once pollutants are in the air, human health can be negatively impacted and pollutants could affect crops and water sources.

To minimize potential health and environmental dangers from pollutants released into the air, the best course of action is to follow DNR regulations and county and city ordinances before burning. Residents should also take note of any burn bans in place. Residents can contact their [local DNR field office](#) with any additional questions.

Items that should never be burned include:

- Rubber tires
- Household garbage/recyclables
- Materials that could contain asbestos
- Asphalt shingles
- Railroad tires
- Treated wood
- Dead animals
- Construction/demolition debris
- Petroleum products
- Plastic
- Metals
- Carpet
- Furniture

There are a few exemptions to open burning rules, including landscape waste that came from the owner's property, recreational fires, training fires, burning disaster rubbish and residential waste.

Landscape waste and trees/tree trimmings originating on the property can be burned but cannot be transported to another property to burn. In certain cases, burning cannot occur within one-quarter mile of an inhabitable structure.

More information on open burning can be found at <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Air-Quality/Open-Burning>.

DNR enforcement actions

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DES MOINES – DNR staff work with individuals, businesses and communities to help them protect our natural resources by complying with state and federal laws. This approach is very effective. In the few cases where compliance cannot be achieved, the DNR issues enforcement actions. The following list summarizes recent enforcement actions. Find the entire, original orders on DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov/EnforcementActions

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Cherokee County

Dennis A. Ladwig Revocable Trust

Submit timely quarterly and annual reports in the future and pay a \$4,000 administrative penalty.

Plymouth County

Doghouse Pork LLC

Pay a \$4,500 administrative penalty.

Scott County

Riverstone Group, Inc.

Comply with all conditions of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit; train employees in permit compliance and submit proof of training; and pay a \$6,000 administrative penalty.

