

**Ordinance No \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ECONOMY, BEAVER COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING THE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR  
OUTDOOR BURNING, THE RESTRICTIONS AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.**

**WHEREAS**, the necessity for outdoor burning has been greatly reduced after decades of expanding means to recycle used household items and efficient refuse collections, and

**WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged that unrestricted outdoor burning of used household combustibles can be a danger to the community and offensive to individuals physical well being, as well as a detriment to the environment, and

**WHEREAS**, PA Act 45 of 1999 requires all Pennsylvania municipalities to follow the International Fire Code, as updated tri-annually, making this Ordinance supplemental and subordinate to the Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the Borough Council of Economy that the following will apply to outdoor burning.

**SECTION 1.** Burning of anything on public streets, sidewalks or public grounds is prohibited. Charcoal and propane grills are permitted at public parks for the express purpose of cooking food provided the coals are extinguished or otherwise safeguarded from igniting a fire upon departure from the park.

**SECTION 2.** Burning of anything on private property is prohibited except as follows:

A. The property owner's permission must be obtained.

B. Fires for cooking purposes on commercially made grills are permitted at all times. Fires for cooking purposes on home-made fire pits, etc are restricted as follows:

- i The area where the fire will burn must be well contained, attended at all times, and be fully extinguished and not left smoldering when finished.
- ii A means to suppress sparks and ashes from escaping upwards and potentially igniting another fire must be in place.
- iii A fire extinguisher, water source or other means of dousing the fire quickly must be on hand.
- iv It must be abundantly apparent that the purpose of the fire is for cooking, and that the mere presence of a marginal amount of food as a subterfuge will be considered a violation of this ordinance.

C. Burning of dry, readily combustible household items such as paper and boxes is permitted under the following circumstances:

- i Tuesday through Saturday except federal holidays, sunrise to sunset, for no more than one hour during any day.
- ii The burning area must be well contained, such as in a burn-barrel, including a means to suppress sparks and ashes from escaping upwards, attended at all times, and be fully extinguished and not left smoldering when finished.
- iii A fire extinguisher, water source or other means of dousing the fire quickly must be on hand.
- iv Must be at least 50 feet from any dwelling and more than 15 feet from any accessory structure.

D. Burning of dry, readily combustible yard waste such as brush and sticks etc is permitted under the following circumstances:

- a. under one cubic yard of loose material, the same as C above
- b. one cubic yard or more of loose material:
  - i By permit issued by the Fire Code Official or duly authorized representative.
  - ii Tuesday through Saturday except federal holidays, sunrise to sunset, for no more than three hours during any day.
  - iii. The burning area must be well contained, or otherwise situated as being deemed safe by the Fire Code Official or duly authorized representative, on days when wind gusts do not exceed 10 mph, attended at all times, and be fully extinguished and not left smoldering when finished.
  - iv A fire extinguisher of sufficient size, water source or other means of dousing the fire quickly must be on hand.
  - v Must be at least 100 feet from any dwelling and more than 50 feet from any accessory structure.

E. Commercial burning is permitted in the Industrial Zone and will be controlled by the Fire Code Official or duly authorized representative on a case by case basis. Commercial burning is defined as burning that is an integral and ongoing part of a business.

F. The Borough, through its agents shall determine what constitutes a “well contained” burning area and all other subjective terms herein, with the Fire Code Official or duly authorized representative having final say if there is a dispute.

**Section 3.** If any part of this ordinance is declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise, the remaining part shall stay in full force and effect. Any ordinance or part of any ordinance that has heretofore been adopted by the Borough and which is inconsistent with any term of this ordinance is hereby repealed.

**Section 4.** Anyone who violates or fails to conform to any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than three hundred dollars (\$300.00), and in default of payment of such fine, be imprisoned for not more than ninety (90) days. Each day’s violation shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

**ORDAINED** and **ENACTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, by Economy Borough Council in lawful session duly assembled.

**BOROUGH OF ECONOMY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of Council**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Borough Secretary**

**EXAMINED** and **APPROVED** by me this \_\_\_\_\_ **DAY OF** \_\_\_\_\_ **2007.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**