

MEDIA RELEASE

June 13, 2023

Port Colborne lifts open-air fire ban for all areas of the city

PORT COLBORNE, ON – After rain and an improvement to air quality in the community, Port Colborne's Fire Chief, Scott Lawson, has lifted the open-air fire ban for all areas of Port Colborne, effective June 13, 2023 at 8 a.m.

Residents are now permitted to have open-air fires, providing they meet the following pre-existing criteria:

- Minimum distance from buildings, property lines and combustible materials of not less than 3 m (10')
- Minimum of 5 m (16.5') vertical clearance from the top of the fire pit to combustibles
- Not be larger than 1 m (3') in diameter and a height of .6 m (2')
- Contained at all times
- Supervised by a person at least eighteen (18) years of age at all times
- Totally extinguished by 11 p.m.
- Only clean seasoned wood can be burned (this excludes, painted, treated, stained wood)
- Must have means to extinguish the fire readily available
- Wind direction and intensity shall be taken into consideration

Farmers wishing to burn fruit tree clippings and brush must follow the <u>non-recreational open air burning guidelines.</u>

While air quality in the area continues to improve, the City of Port Colborne's Fire & Emergency Services Department will monitor these conditions and will share updates as required.

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