

**NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE: 1 of 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP AMENDING THE
TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES, SPECIFICALLY
CHAPTER 129 OPEN BURNING TO ESTABLISH A
DEFINITION FOR NORMAL AGRICULTURAL
OPERATIONS, TO ELIMINATE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF BURNING, TO AMEND THE DAYS
AND TIMES BURNING SHALL BE PERMITTED AND TO
ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS REGARDING
CERTAIN BURNING IN THE TOWNSHIP.**

WHEREAS, the Municipalities Planning Code, 53 P.S. §10101 *et seq.* (the “MPC”), authorizes North Franklin Township (the “Township”) to create ordinances for the regulation, administration and enforcement of Township zoning ordinances, codes, etc.; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to its authority under the MPC, the Board of Supervisors of the Township (the “Township Supervisors”) have adopted a Township Code, including the establishment of regulations related to fire codes and open burning requirements in the Township; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Supervisors believe there is a need to amend the Township Code to further define how open burning is regulated in the Township, including but not limited to adding a definition for normal agricultural operations, amending the days and times burning is permitted and to eliminate certain types of burning from requiring permits; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors hereby ordains and enacts as follows, incorporating the above recitals by reference:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known as the North Franklin Township “2026 Open Burning Amendment Ordinance”

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 129-1. DEFINITIONS.

§ 129-1 is amended by adding the following:

- (b) No structures are burned;
- (c) The burning area does not exceed eight feet in diameter;
- (d) Burning is conducted in a safe and responsible manner;
- (e) No accelerants are used to start or maintain burning;
- (f) No hazardous materials are burned, such as construction materials, plastics, garbage, shingles, treated wood or other such material.

- 2. All fires must be attended at all times.
- 3. All fires, whether set by permit or not, must be set away from any lot line according to the following guidelines:
 - (a) All fires shall be located in an area to be centered between the side yard lines of any property and 10 feet from the rear yard lot line of any property.
- 4. All fires must be set and maintained so as to not directly create a hazard to persons or property.

B. Any person wishing to set a fire outside of the regulations set in § 129-4 of this chapter or those in §129-6.A may do so by attaining a permit subject to following regulations:

- (1) "Grubbing" permits or permits to burn off vegetation on land for the maintenance of the land or for preparation of construction projects may be set by permit only. Said permits will be good on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. only.
- (2) Permits will be applied for through the Township Secretary or person acting in his/her place. Said application will be in any form set by the Township Secretary. Permits may be applied for and issued during normal Township business hours.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 129-7. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSIONS OF PERMITS.

§ 129-7 is hereby amended by adding the following:

- D. The North Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Department (and/or other emergency personnel authorized to operate in the Township shall have the ability to enter property to eliminate fires that are deemed to be a nuisance (smoke, etc.) and/or danger to the public.
- E. In the event an Emergency Burn Ban Order has been issued by the Chairman of the Township Board of Supervisors and the Fire Chief, all fires, whether specifically issued a permit for or not, shall be suspended until the Emergency Burn Ban Order has been terminated.

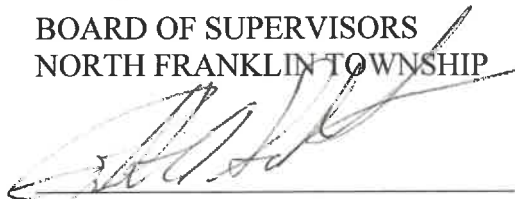
ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 13th day of January, 2026.

ATTEST:

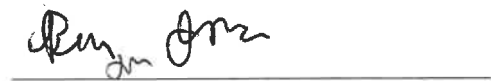
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP


Secretary

(SEAL)


Chairperson, Board of Supervisors


Supervisor


Supervisor