
VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE BOARD REPORT

TO: VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FROM: PATRICK J. ROLLINS, CHIEF OF POLICE
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION: AMENDING TITLE 4 CHAPTER 6 OPEN BURNING, EXCEPTION (4-6-3) BY ADDING PARAGRAPH "F" PERMITTING GOLF COURSES TO BURN UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS
AGENDA: MARCH 18, 2025
DATE: MARCH 10, 2025

ISSUE

Should the Village Board amend Title 4 Chapter 6, Section 3 (Exceptions), by adding paragraph "F" permitting golf courses in the Village to Open Burn only with the permission per occurrence of both the Police Chief and Fire Chief on certain days with specific parameters.

DISCUSSION

The Village Board at their June 18, 2024, Board Meeting, amended the Open Burning Village Code by not permitting the burning of leaves in the Village and strengthened the requirements under 4-6-3.

Burning material on golf courses became subject to the new regulations and has unduly hindered their ability to effectively remove downed trees, tree limbs, leaves and cause financial hardship, if not able to continue with their past practices. Recently, Bliss Creek Golf Course was alerted to not being able to burn in the corporate limits of the Village based on the new regulations. They have asked the Village Board to re-consider the open burning regulations and grant an exception for golf courses.

Golf courses within the Village typically cover hundreds of acres of property which are zoned Agricultural. They are subject to numerous downed trees or tree limbs due to weather related events, disease, routine maintenance, re-design, or age. Golf courses need a means to properly dispose of excessive amounts of trees and tree limbs every season.

If the Village Board by consensus is desiring to amend the current Village Code, staff is requesting that the police department and fire department establish the specific conditions when golf courses can burn. In addition, both public safety entities would be

needed to sign off on a combined local permit, per occurrence (not a blanket permit for the season).

Below is an excerpt of our open burning regulations under the Village's Code of Ordinances.

CHAPTER 6
OPEN BURNING
SECTION: 4-6-2 and 4-6-3

4-6-2: OPEN BURNING PROHIBITION:

Burning and open fires of any combustible materials, including, but not limited to paper, treated building materials, cardboard, grass, leaves, rags, garbage, garden trash and/or any other similar materials, of whatever type and kind within the Village limits are prohibited with only certain limited exceptions as set forth in this chapter. (Ord. 2019-08-20A, 8-20-2019; amd. Ord. 2024-0618PD, 6-18-2024)

4-6-3: EXCEPTIONS:

Open fires may be maintained within the Village under the following circumstances:

A. Fires started and attended by the personnel of the Village of Sugar Grove or Sugar Grove Fire Protection District.

B. Burning for the purpose of prairie restoration provided a permit is issued by the Village of Sugar Grove or Sugar Grove Fire Protection District.

C. Recreational campfires of less than three feet (3') in diameter and less than three feet (3') in height, burning untreated wood only, within a self-contained outdoor wood burning device or structure, or an outdoor fireplace, from the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) P.M. Sunday through Thursday and ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. through twelve o'clock (12:00) midnight, on Friday and Saturday.

D. Festive and/or ceremonial burning in excess of three feet (3') in diameter or three feet (3') in height with a permit issued by the Village. The Village Chief of Police or his/her designee shall review the permit request and may approve a permit with certain conditions or deny the request on the grounds of public safety when appropriate. Permitted burning hours shall be from the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) P.M. Sunday through Thursday and ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. through twelve o'clock (12:00) midnight, on Friday and Saturday.

E. Open fires used for cooking food at public or private gatherings, provided that such fires are exclusively for said purposes between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) A.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) P.M. Sunday through Thursday and seven o'clock (7:00) A.M. through twelve o'clock (12:00) midnight, on Friday and Saturday.

Staff is looking for direction from the Village Board to add, paragraph "F".

Proposed Language:

F. Golf Courses within the Village are permitted to open burn downed trees, tree limbs, leaves, generated from their own property with specific parameters established by the Police Department and Fire Department. Authorization to burn must be signed off on by the Police Chief and Fire Chief for each occurrence. The Police Chief and Fire Chief will establish a local permitting process and open burn parameters to be followed. The parameters are subject to change based on current health safety and public safety best practices. (Permits are per occurrence and not for the whole season.)

COST

Anticipated costs for attorney review of the ordinance is approximately \$250. STAR

RECOMMENDATION – That the Village Board by ordinance (2025-0415PD-1) amend Title 4 Chapter 6 Section 3 under Exceptions by adding paragraph “F”. This new paragraph would permit open burning for Golf Courses with specific conditions/parameters established by staff as well as create a local permitting process to allow golf courses to apply per occurrence.



**VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

Ordinance No. 2025- 0415PD

An Ordinance Amending Title 4 - Chapter 6, Section 3 of the Village Code of Ordinances

**(OPEN BURNING- Adding under 4-6-3 (Exceptions) by adding paragraph "F" permitting
Golf Courses to Open Burn with certain parameters**

Village of Sugar Grove, Kane County, Illinois

Adopted by the
Board of Trustees and President
of the Village of Sugar Grove
this 15th day of April 2025.

Published in Pamphlet Form
by authority of the Board of Trustees
of the Village of Sugar Grove, Kane County,
Illinois, this 15th day of April 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-0415PD

**An Ordinance Amending Title 4 – Chapter 6 of the Village Code of Ordinances
(4-6-3 OPEN BURNING adding paragraph “F” permitting Golf Courses to Open Burn
with certain parameters)**

Village of Sugar Grove, Kane County, Illinois

BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sugar Grove, Kane County, Illinois, as follows;

WHEREAS, the Village of Sugar Grove (“Village”) is not a home rule municipality within Article VII, Section 6A of the Illinois Constitution, and accordingly, seeks to act pursuant to the powers granted to it under 65 ILCS 5/1-1 *et seq.*; and,

WHEREAS, the Village deems it necessary and proper to amend its regulations by amending the current provisions and add the word, “leaves” to the items prohibited under Open Burning 4-6-2, Open Burning Prohibition.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the corporate authorities of the Village of Sugar Grove as follows.

SECTION 1: TITLE 4 – CHAPTER 6 – Amend 4-6-3

The following provisions of the Village of Sugar Grove Code of Ordinances shall be amended by adding paragraph “F” to the other exceptions paragraphs (“A”-“E”):

4-6-3-F: OPEN BURNING Exceptions

4-6-3: OPEN BURNING Exceptions:

F. Golf Courses within the Village are permitted to open burn downed trees, tree limbs, leaves, generated from their own property with specific parameters established by the Police Department and Fire Department. Authorization to burn must be signed off on by the Police Chief and Fire Chief for each occurrence. The Police Chief and Fire Chief will establish a local permitting process and open burn parameters to be followed. The parameters are subject to change based on current health safety and public safety best practices. (Permits are per occurrence and not for the whole season.)

Any provision not specifically enumerated herein shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION TWO: GENERAL PROVISIONS

REPEALER: All ordinances or portions thereof in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY: Should any provision of this Ordinance be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction; the remaining provisions will remain in full force and effect the same as if the invalid provision had not been a part of this Ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and after its approval, passage and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sugar Grove, Kane County, Illinois, this 15th day of April 2025.

Jennifer Konen
President of the Board of Trustees
of the Village of Sugar Grove, Kane
County, Illinois

ATTEST: _____
Tracey Conti
Clerk, Village of Sugar Grove

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Trustee Heidi Lendi	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Matt Bonnie	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Sean Herron	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee James White	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Sean Michels	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Michael Schomas	_____	_____	_____	_____
Village President Jennifer Konen	_____	_____	_____	_____

