



# MINERS' JOURNAL

Official Publication



Borough of Minersville

[www.minersvilleonline.com](http://www.minersvilleonline.com)

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BOROUGH OF MINERSVILLE, PA

May 2025

*A Minersville Tradition! Invite Family and Friends to Enjoy the Holiday*

## Honor the Fallen; Thank All Who Have Served May 26



Memorial Day 2025 in Minersville will welcome back the favorite holiday traditions - Memorial Day Parade, salutes and remembrances, barbecues, end-of-school-year parties - and the anticipation of a relaxing, carefree summer.

### Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony

The parade on Monday, May 26 will step off at 9 a.m., beginning at the Minersville Little League

parking lot. The parade route will go North on South Fourth Street and turn right on Sunbury Street, heading east to the Minersville Veterans Memorial Park at 3 East Sunbury Street. The public is invited and encouraged to watch the parade from any location along the route, then walk to the park to enjoy the Memorial Day ceremony.

Ceremony participants who did not walk in the parade should assemble no later than 9 a.m. at the Park location.

### JUNE 30 FIREWORKS SHOW



The Minersville Lions Club asks funding support from community businesses and individuals to make this year's celebration spectacular. *See page 4*

## Everyone in the Pool!

The Minersville Community Pool, located at the Fourth Street Recreation Complex, is tentatively scheduled to open on a daily basis from noon to 7 p.m. beginning Sunday, June 1.

Check the Borough website or call the Borough Office near the end of May for any changes in the planned opening.

### Get your season pool pass

Season pool passes are now available. Applications can be made at the Borough Office, 2 E. Sunbury St. or by downloading the form on the website [minersvillepa.gov](http://minersvillepa.gov) (click on the Community Pool tab). Complete

- Continued on Page 2

## COMMUNITY YARD SALE

To register your household for the community-wide yard sale June 7, 2025, complete this newsletter Entry Form and return it to:

Minersville Borough Office, 2 E. Sunbury Street, no later than June 4. Make checks payable to the "Minersville Recreation Committee" in the amount of \$5 per map location. Minersville Borough homes only! This is an all-weather event. Maps will be available for pick-up on June 5.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infant clothes/supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> Antiques         |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's clothes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electronics             | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tools                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Decorations      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other                   |   |

**Yard Sale 7 to 11 a.m.**

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# 2025 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

2 East Sunbury Street  
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 Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
[www.minersvillepa.gov](http://www.minersvillepa.gov)

## OFFICIALS

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Minersville Borough Council meets the First and Second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Water Authority Building on North Delaware Avenue. Both meetings are open to the public. A Work Session takes place on the First Tuesday. The Business Meeting is then held on the Second Tuesday.

## 2025 OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Minersville Borough offices will be closed in 2025 in observance of the stated holidays - Presidents Day, Feb. 17; Good Friday (half day, close at 11 a.m.), April 18; Memorial Day, May 26; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 1; Columbus Day, Oct. 13; Veterans Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving and day after, Nov. 27 and 28; Christmas, Dec. 24 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Dec. 25; New Year's, Dec. 31 (half day, close at 11 a.m.), Jan. 1, 2026.

# Let's Make a Splash!

- Continued from Page 1

the form and mail or enter it at the Borough Office along with payment. Season tickets are available at the Borough Office and will be available at the Minersville Community Pool once it opens and throughout the summer. All applications will be verified before tickets are issued. Fraudulent information voids the pass. A season pass for Minersville Borough residents costs \$70 for a Student, \$80 for an Adult, \$55 for a Senior Citizen, and \$140 for a Family (up to five) plus \$30 for each additional child.



Non-resident season passes will be: \$85 for a Student, \$100 for an Adult, \$75 for a Senior Citizen, and \$170 for a Family, up to five, plus \$40 for each additional child.

A "Family" consists of parents, or a couple, and up to three children, all permanent residents of the same household and same immediate family... or one adult and up to four children. A separate pass is required for any adult, 18 or older, residing in the household (adult children, grandparents, aunts, uncles). If a babysitter is listed on the pass, that individual will only be admitted when with the children listed on the pass. Also, the babysitter certification form must be completed. Sitters must be 16 years of age or older.

Daily admission prices this year: \$3 for a Pre-School child and Senior Citizens, \$4 for a Student (age four through 17), \$6 for Adult (age 18 and over); Evening admission from 5 to 7 p.m. will be 50% off the daily rate.

Pre-School is a child, age three or younger. Senior Citizens must be age 55 or older.

Children under age 10 must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years of age or older. Without a responsible adult, children under 10 will be denied admission to the pool. There is no non-swimmer discount; all patrons entering the pool are required to pay the appropriate fee.

Resident pass rates are for Borough residents only. School district residents that reside in the townships must pay the non-resident rates.

The Borough reserves the right to seek proof of familial relationship and residency. Passes will not be issued if fraudulent information is provided. Pool passes are non-refundable.

Refunds are not given if the facility closes for weather events. It is the responsibility of the patron to check the weather prior to entry to the facility.

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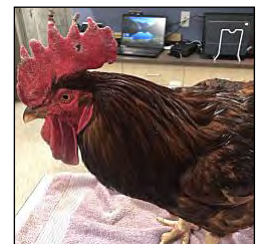
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# Minersville Area Lions Club – We Serve!

## Independence Day Fireworks & September Spirit Day

Since 2020, the Minersville Area Lions Club has taken on the long-standing tradition of putting on Minersville Borough's Fireworks show to celebrate Independence Day. Every year our display has been a great success, largely due to all of the generous contributions made by businesses and citizens like you.

The 2025 display and event will be Minersville's 72nd annual Fireworks Show and Independence Day celebration, to be held this year on Monday, June 30 beginning at 6 p.m. In the event of rain, the show and celebration could be delayed until Tuesday, July 1.

We hope to make this year's show another successful and fun-filled occasion. The show will be set up at the Teener Field above the Minersville Little League Complex. Our goal is to have food, games, and activities that will make it enjoyable for the entire family!

Please consider donating to this exciting event... No donation is too small and the Lions Club has provided a donation QR code, as well as a donation mailing envelope in this issue of *Miners' Journal* for your convenience.

The Minersville Area Lions Club is a non-profit civic organization founded in 1949 that strives to

### SUPPORT OUR 2025 MINERSVILLE FIREWORKS – GREATLY APPRECIATED!

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(if applicable)

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Mail check payable to "Minersville Area Lions Club" and mail to P.O. Box 461, Minersville, PA 17954  
Use pre-addressed envelope inside this newsletter • Memo: "2025 Fireworks"

**Thank You  
For Your  
Support**

help improve the quality of life for residents of the Minersville Area by providing support for health-related issues, youth programs, emergency relief, cultural growth, and other community needs. The members of the club are men and women interested in the development of the Minersville Area. The general purpose of the club is to recognize community needs and effect a remedy through independent effort or cooperation with other organizations.



### Spirit Day returns Sunday, Sept. 14

The Lions Club is pleased to announce the return of Spirit Day, scheduled on Sunday, September 14 this year - 10 a.m. to 4pm, on North Street in Minersville.

Spirit Day is a community-centered event that includes entertainment, food, vendors, music, school spirit, family fun, and more!

Please join us for this exciting day, and email us at [minersvillespiritday@yahoo.com](mailto:minersvillespiritday@yahoo.com) to **SHOW YOUR SPIRIT** as a vendor organization or displayer.

**MINERSVILLE LIONS CLUB PRESENTS**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH**

**SPIRIT DAY**

**WHAT TO EXPECT THIS YEAR**

- Live Music
- School Spirit
- Live Performances
- Games
- Food Trucks
- Vendors
- Novelties
- School Boosters

If you would like to be a part of Spirit Day this year, please email:  
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**Beethoven Piano Trio Project**  
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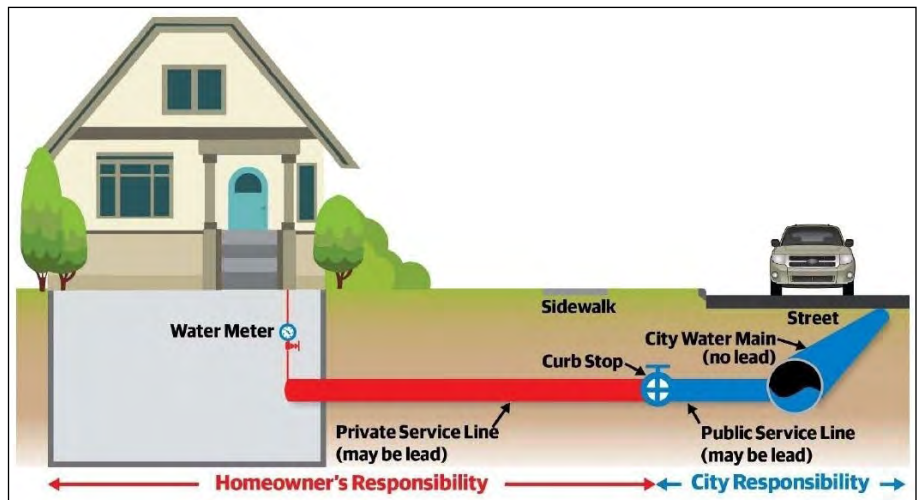
# Lead Line Notification Requirement

## Does Your Water Service Line Contain Lead?

Water system piping that may consist of lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or “lead-status unknown” service lines must inform those served at the service connection.

### What is a Service Line?

A service line is the piping that connects your household or building plumbing to the water main in the street. Ownership varies by water system, but is typically split between the water system and the customer. Minersville Water Authority owns the section of the service line from the water main to the curb stop. The section from the curb stop to the water meter is owned by the customer.



### How can I determine my line material?

The Minersville Borough Municipal Authority is continuing service line identification and replacement. If your service line is found to contain lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement, you will receive a separate notice with information about service line replacement and financing opportunities.

If you know your service line is not lead, please call the office to let us know. If you are unsure, please contact us to set up an appointment for verification.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

### How can I reduce exposure to lead?

- Run your water to flush out lead. If the water hasn't been used for several hours, run the water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or run the water until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. Only use cold water for drinking and cooking.
- Do NOT use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do NOT boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- Look for alternative sources or treatment of water, such as use of a pitcher filter that is certified to remove lead and replace the cartridges on a routine frequency, or use bottled water.
- Identify and replace premises plumbing fixtures containing lead. Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as “lead free” installed prior to 2014, may contribute lead to drinking water. The law prior to that time allowed fixtures with up to 8% lead to be labeled as lead-free.
- Regularly clean your aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures. Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.



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# Minersville Softball Dynasty Teams Reach Milestones

## 40 Years Ago!



1985 Minersville Senior Little League Softball All Stars were national runners-up, competing in the World Series in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Pictured are, front row from left, Carrie Federovich, Terri Searles, Brenda Ryan, Kathy Devers, and Tara Andrachick; middle row, Dee Dee Zambiasi, Rachel Ryan, Chrissy Bassininsky, Kim Homa, and Nannette Bassininsky; standing, Coach Jim Siemanis, Jenny Siemanis, Robyn Vicic, Jennifer Huntzinger, Jen Miller, and Manager Jerry Sitkus.

## 35 Years Ago!



1990 Minersville Senior Division Little League Softball All Stars (13-to-15-year-old) won the PA State Championship and finished in second place in the Eastern Regional Tournament. Pictured are, front row from left, Shannon Karpulk, Becky Beach, Kourtney Edwards, and Angie Barton; middle row, Lisa Zula, Jodi Kuehn, Stacy Scheib, Jody Genovese, and Rachel Pasco; standing, Coach Jerry Sitkus, Amy Yob, Kim Stabinsky, Jill Rowlands, Rachel Pozza, Kim Rogers, and Manager Tom Hayle.



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# History of Minersville High School Football

Part 6 In Our Series; Compiled and Written by Shayne Schafer

## The Rick Jones Coaching Era – 1991 Thru 2002

The Minersville School Board wasted no time hiring a new coach after Joe Willinsky stepped down at the end of the 1990 season, hiring Rick Jones just two months later. A standout at Tamaqua, Jones also played football at East Stroudsburg University and previously coached at ESU, Pine Grove, and Blue Mountain.

Echoing sentiments shared by future coaches, Jones said he applied for the job because of the program's strong history, the hard work of the players, and the positive support the team received.



Jones faced a challenging road ahead, with the team coming off two 1-and-9 seasons and a daunting schedule. The team struggled in Jones' first year at the helm, finish-

ing with a 1-and-9 record for a third straight season. But they competed, losing close games against West

Hazleton, Shenandoah, and North Schuylkill.

The program made significant strides during the off-season. Jones introduced a strength and conditioning program, which former coach Willinsky lamented was holding the program back. In Jones' first season in 1991, the team was physically handled at times, but their hard work in the off-season became evident on the field.

After shutting out Jim Thorpe to open the 1992 season, they lost three closely contested games. Following this slump, senior leaders organized meetings to refocus the team. Minersville didn't lose another game that year, finishing with a record of 7-3-1 and outscoring their final seven opponents, 160-53 to secure the school's first winning season since 1988. On the year, co-captain Mitch Ritche stated, "It feels good to get respect back here at Minersville and turn the program around."

Jones' team then went on an unmatched run in program history, reaching the championship game three consecutive years and making the playoffs five years in a row. From 1993 to 1995, the team advanced to either the Eastern Conference or District 11 championship, while in 1996 and 1997, it reached the District 11 semifinals.

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# History of Minersville High School Football

The 1993 season started slowly with a 1-and-2 record. Minersville then won eight straight games to secure their first playoff berth in five years, traveling to face 10-1 Susquehanna to open the Eastern Conference Class A playoffs. The Miners dominated time of possession (holding the ball for nearly 30 minutes) with scores by Rob Laudeman and Scott Gehres from a Joe Ladick pass to win their first playoff game since 1984, 13-6. They then traveled to face undefeated South Williamsport, who would eventually become state runner-ups, defeating Minersville 32-6.

Minersville continued its success into 1994, finishing the regular season with a record of 7-3, earning a home playoff game in the Eastern Conference playoffs against Old Forge. In a rematch of the 1949 Eastern Conference Championship, the Miners dominated, amassing 275 rushing yards thanks to Jon Murphy, Brian Laudeman, Brandon Marshall, and Bob Nagle en route to a 35-7 win.

Minersville returned to the championship, hosting Pius X. The Royals jumped to an early 10-0 lead and maintained it into the fourth quarter. Although Minersville fought back, turnovers proved to be their downfall. Pius X held on to win the title 17-14.

With only losses to eventual state runner-up Southern Columbia and Eastern Conference runner-up Blue Mountain, Minersville finished the 1995 regular season with an 8-2 record. Once again, the Miners faced off against Pius X in the playoffs, trav-

eling to Roseto for the District 11 crown. Much like in the '94 game, turnovers proved disastrous for Minersville. Leading the Royals 13-7 into the third quarter, Minersville turned the ball over four times in the second half as Pius X rallied to a 26-13 victory and secured the district title.

The Battlin' Miners continued their winning ways in 1996 and 1997, returning to the district playoffs in both seasons. In 1996, they fell in the semifinals to Schuylkill Haven, 15-14. Turnovers were again crucial. With a 14-0 lead in the third quarter, a Miners fumble allowed the Hurricanes to score their first points of the game. The momentum shifted, and Schuylkill Haven scored their second touchdown along with the go-ahead, two-point conversion with less than two minutes left in the game to secure the victory. In 1997, Minersville lost to the eventual District 11 champions, Shenandoah, 32-7.

While they were never able to bring a title home to Minersville, the level of success they achieved against the tough schedule they had was impressive. The 1990s marked a period of strong small-school football in the Coal Region. From 1991 to 1997, Minersville faced two state champions, Schuylkill Haven in 1991 and Southern Columbia in 1994, as well as three state runner-ups, South Williamsport in 1993 and Southern Columbia in both 1995 and 1996. Additionally, they competed against perennial district

- Continued on Page 10

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# History of Minersville High School Football

- Continued from Page 9

qualifiers Pius X, along with Mahanoy Area, Tri-Valley, Williams Valley, and Blue Mountain, all of whom were strong throughout the 1990s.

Injuries plagued Minersville throughout the 1998 season. By week four, they had eleven players sidelined. The following week, they were forced to shift Jordan Marshall from running back to quarterback after losing Ed Moran, Adam Frantz, and Justin Frantz to injuries.

Minersville continued to win despite these setbacks. Heading into the final week of the season, with a 6-3 record and a chance at the playoffs, the injuries ultimately took their toll, and the team fell to Panther Valley 35-21, ending a five-year streak of playoff berths.

Due to injuries sustained the previous year, Minersville returned for the 1999 season with many underclassmen who had varsity experience, but things never seemed to click. They endured an up-and-down season, finishing 4-6, marking Jones's second losing season as head coach. Jones expressed the team's feelings following their fourth consecutive loss against Shenandoah in week eight: "I have not reached this team, and I think everybody on the staff feels that way. There's talent here, but there's something missing."

After consecutive disappointing seasons,

Minersville stormed back to the district playoffs in 2000, finishing the regular season undefeated for the first time since 1955 and only the third time in the school's history. Led by the running of Ed Siminitus and Mike Pavelko, along with a strong line, the Miners outscored their opponents 352 to 102. Minersville didn't have a game within three scores after beating Schuylkill Haven 14-6 in week three. Regarding the perfect season, Jones said, "I thought we had a chance to be really good, but I didn't ever think about being undefeated."

Securing the top seed in the District 11 Class A playoffs, Minersville hosted Williams Valley in the semifinals. Minersville played without senior defensive leader Mike Pavelko, who was injured in practice ten days prior. Williams Valley took advantage by controlling the line of scrimmage. The Vikings led 13-8 at halftime and never looked back. Minersville struggled to stop Williams Valley's Wing-T attack. The Vikings stunned Minersville, defeating them 34-15 to end their magical season.

Jones' final two years at Minersville resulted in back-to-back 5-and-5 seasons. During the 2001 season, the team aimed to rebuild after losing thirteen starters to graduation, while also dealing with injuries. Nevertheless, Minersville achieved its 500th victory in program history that season, routing Mahanoy Area 48-7 and joining Pottsville and Easton as the only District 11 programs with 500 or more wins.

While the 2001 season marked a program milestone, 2002 brought a personal one for Jones. Once again against Mahanoy Area, Jones achieved his 75th career win at Minersville, surpassing Paul Elberti as the winningest coach in school history. He announced his resignation on the Monday before the season finale against Panther Valley.

He wanted to leave the program in a position where the next coach had a chance to succeed, and with the number of young players on the field, it was an opportune moment. Upon his resignation, he reflected, "I had an opportunity to work with lots of good kids, and that's the most important thing."

That Friday, down by 14 points, the Battlin' Miners scored 29 unanswered points to defeat Panther Valley and send their coach out with a win. The victory was bittersweet for Jones, as it reminded him of "...the kind of football we played in the past where we just wore people down."

Jones' time at Minersville was marked by teams that won on the field, but not in the trophy case. His squads thrived in an era of remarkable small-school football in the Coal Region, making the playoffs regularly when only two or four teams qualified per classification. Despite not bringing home a championship, he helped revive a program that was a doormat in the early '90s, led his team to an unprecedented three straight league titles and five consecutive playoff appearances, and achieved the school's third-ever undefeated regular season. He also ended his career as the winningest coach in school history with a 79-50-1 record.



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# Reminders From Our Code Officer

## Planning That Next Project? You May Need a Permit!

When planning your summer projects, please remember to contact the Borough Office regarding Building Permits.

Permits are required for all new constructions and all replacements or alterations of roofs, windows, doors, garage doors, electrical, plumbing, heating systems (including supplemental heating units), sidewalks, curbing, fencing with six feet max. height, chimney replacement or installation of liners, foundations, swimming pool and hot tub installation, oil storage tanks, sub-flooring, and interior renovations.

Adding to your existing structure (i.e. new decks, enclosing decks) requires a building permit and zoning permit. Zoning permits are administered by the Schuylkill County Zoning Office; phone 570-628-1415.

Also, if you are replacing windows, all windows installed in this area must have a U-factor of .30 or better. This number has been established under the 2018 Uniform Construction Code that has been adopted by the State of Pennsylvania and enforced throughout Pennsylvania. If the windows do not have the proper U-factor, they will not pass code inspection.

If you are planning to install a pool. Permits are required for both seasonal/temporary pools and permanent pools. Links for this requirement can be found at [www.minersvillepa.gov/code-enforcement/](http://www.minersvillepa.gov/code-enforcement/). Seasonal pools can only be erected from May 15 thru October 15. A yearly permit and inspection is required on all seasonal pools.

### **Building in the floodplain**

Permits are required for all construction and development within a floodplain. Development is defined as "any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, or drilling operations, or storage of equipment or materials.

### **Outside burning ordinance**

Below is information regarding outside burn pits. The full text of the ordinance can be downloaded at [www.minersvillepa.gov/code-enforcement/](http://www.minersvillepa.gov/code-enforcement/).

**Burn Container(s)** - Only manufactured fire pits, chimineas or fireplace kits with an Underwriters Laboratory label will be permissible. All burn containers must contain sides and cover as defined herein. All burn containers must be installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Burn containers shall not be allowed to deteriorate to the point where they contain holes or missing surface in the structure. No homemade fire pits, outdoor fireplaces, incinerators, chimineas and

other types of burning pits will be allowed within the Borough of Minersville.

**Exception:** Portable outdoor grills, fired by propane or charcoal, and designed for food preparation, are excluded from the provisions of this ordinance.

**Burn Container Cover** - a metal screen with spaces not more than one-half (1/2) square inch, or other comparable material, that covers the entire open area above the burn container opening. Such screen shall be maintained in good order as to prevent large particles from escaping the burn container during operation. The cover shall

not be allowed to deteriorate to any point whereby it loses its maximum efficiency.

### **Burning regulations**

- It shall be illegal to burn any materials that give off any acrid, obnoxious, or toxic odors, or emit heavy smoke.

- Burning, in compliance with this Ordinance, shall be permitted only between the hours of 8 a.m. to 12 midnight. Under no conditions shall burning, as defined herein, be permitted between the hours of midnight to 8 a.m. Fires in burn containers must be fully extinguished and not be allowed to burn or smolder after 12 midnight. Fires burning after the allowed times shall be in violation of this Ordinance, and all those persons or corporations causing such fires shall be prosecuted under the guidelines of this Ordinance.

- All burn containers must be attended by a responsible resident, 18 years of age and older, of the property.

- The use of gasoline or other accelerants cannot be used to start fires in burn containers.

- All burning in the burn containers must be done in a way as to not cause excessive flames or be used in a way that will cause property damage or bodily harm.

- All burn containers must be kept ten (10) feet from any combustible structure. No burning container shall be used within five (5) feet of any property line or public sidewalk area. No burning container can be used for any other purpose.

Any and all Borough Police Officers, Code Enforcement Officers, and/or Borough Fire Chief are hereby granted the authority and responsibility for inspecting outside burning containers for compliance with this ordinance. In the event any violations of this ordinance are found to be in existence at the time of inspection, the officers are hereby charged with the responsibility of issuing warnings or citations, as merited, for all violations of this ordinance. Any condition that is deemed as unsafe or causing annoyance or alarm to neighbors will authorize the officer to require the immediate extinguishment of the burning.





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