

Legal Notice

At the regularly scheduled meeting on March 9, 2025, the Town Council of Glenwood, Indiana will consider the approval of 2026-3 An Ordinance Regulating Open Burning. The meeting will be at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall. The meeting will be livestreamed via <https://glenwoodtown.com>.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in the public meeting should notify the town as soon as possible but no later than Wednesday, March 4, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. Communication can be via phone at 765-679-5600 or email at clerk-treasurer@townofglenwood.IN.gov. A request can also be mailed through the U. S. Postal Service to be received by March 4, 2026.

Ordinance 2026-3 Regulating Open Burning

§ I. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by regulating open burning within the Town of Glenwood. This ordinance establishes conditions for safe burning, restricts hazardous burning practices, and provides enforcement authority to prevent fire hazards and air quality issues.

§ II. AUTHORITY.

This ordinance is adopted under the Town's home-rule powers and in accordance with relevant Indiana fire, environmental, and municipal laws. Law Enforcement Officers, Code Enforcement Officers, and the Fire Chief (or highest-ranking firefighter on scene) are authorized to enforce this ordinance.

§ III. DEFINITIONS.

- A. OPEN BURNING. Ignition or maintenance of any fire not fully contained within a manufactured device or a certified appliance.
- B. NATURAL PRODUCTS. Clean, untreated wood, tree limbs, brush, leaves, and other natural vegetation.
- C. TRASH. Household garbage, plastics, rubber, treated wood, painted wood, construction debris, furniture, electronics, or any material prohibited by IDEM regulations.
- D. RECREATIONAL FIRE. A small fire for pleasure, cooking, warmth, or ceremonial purposes, contained within a fire pit, fire ring, or manufactured outdoor fireplace.

§ IV. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS.

- A. Burning of trash or any prohibited materials is strictly forbidden.
- B. Open burning that creates excessive smoke, offensive odors, or air quality hazards is prohibited.
- C. Fires may not be left unattended at any time.
- D. Burning is prohibited during high wind conditions or burn bans.
- E. Burning that obstructs vision on roads or intersections is prohibited.

§ V. RECREATIONAL FIRES. Recreational fires are permitted under these conditions:

- A. Must be contained within a fire ring or manufactured pit.
- B. Must be at least 15 feet from structures, vehicles, or combustibles.
- C. Only natural wood may be burned.
- D. Must be supervised by an adult at all times.
- E. Extinguishing equipment must be on hand.
- F. Fire must not create a nuisance or hazard.

§ VI. BURN BARRELS. Burn barrels are permitted under the following conditions:

- A. Only natural products may be burned.
- B. Must have a metal mesh lid or spark screen.
- C. Must be at least 15 feet from buildings, vehicles, and property lines.
- D. Must be supervised at all times. Ground must be cleared of combustibles.

§ VII. OPEN BURNING OF VEGETATION. Burning natural vegetation is allowed under these conditions:

- A. Only natural products may be burned.
- B. Must be at least 25 feet from structures or vehicles.
- C. Burning allowed only during daylight hours.
- D. Fire must be attended at all times.
- E. Fire must not create excessive smoke or a nuisance.
- F. Fire must be fully extinguished before leaving the area.

§ VIII. ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY AUTHORITY. Enforcement officials may:

- A. Order fires extinguished immediately if unsafe;
- B. Issue citations for violations;
- C. Remove prohibited materials;
- D. Enter property as reasonably necessary to investigate unsafe burning.

§ IX. PENALTIES.

- A. First offense: \$100.
- B. Second offense (within 12 months): \$250.
- C. Third or subsequent offenses: \$500 per offense.
- D. Each act or violation constitutes a separate offense.

§ X. COST OF ABATEMENT.

All costs incurred by the Town in extinguishing or responding to violations shall be billed to the responsible party. Unpaid costs may be collected by lien.

§ XI. APPEALS.

A cited party may appeal in writing to the Town Council within ten (10) days. The Council's decision is final.

§ XII. SEVERABILITY.

Invalid sections do not affect the remainder of this ordinance.

§ XIII. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by law.

Mary Richardson
Clerk-Treasurer
2/14/2026