

# ***Augusta County Emergency Services Officers Association***

*Augusta County Government Center  
P.O. Box 590 – 18 Government Center Lane  
Verona, Virginia 24482*



## ***Fire-EMS***

### ***Standard Operating Guideline***

<b>Section:</b>	<b>4 Fire Operational Information</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Open Burning – Grass, Brush, Forest Fires</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>August, 2008 (Reviewed September 2013)</b>

## **OPEN BURNING**

### **Grass-Brush-Forest Fires**

Augusta County has no regulation concerning open air burning; however, open air burning is controlled by two state agencies. The Department of Environmental Quality located in Harrisonburg and the Virginia Division of Forestry located in Staunton. All enforcement of regulations of open burning is controlled by the agencies. Personnel from Augusta County can not give authorization or permission for any open air burning, only to advise citizens of the state rules and regulations.

The Virginia Forestry Law is in effect from February 1 until April 30 of each year. During this period, it should be unlawful for any open burning to be conducted within 300 feet of any woodland, brush land or field containing dry grass or any combustible material that could lead to forestland except between the hours of 4 p.m. and 12 midnight. Anyone burning during this time shall be within sight of the fire at any time that there is a flame or smoke. The Virginia Division of Forestry will assist any fire company with controlling grass, brush, or forestland fires on property other than the National Forest. Assistance from the National Forest or National Parks can be obtained from the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Anyone wishing to conduct open - burning of brush or any sizeable fire shall first notify the emergency operations center at 540 245-5061.