



**Town of Boxford
Boxford Fire Department
Chief Brian Geiger
6 Middleton Road
Boxford, Massachusetts 01921
978-887-5725**

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME

East
(978) 887-5725
6 Middleton Road
Monday- Friday 6am-6pm

West
(978) 352-2346
585 Main Street
Tuesday – Friday 7am-5pm

Police & Communications
(978) 887-8136
285 Ipswich Road
24 Hrs.

The Boxford Fire Department welcomes you! We operate out of two stations: East and West. Both stations are manned from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M., Monday through Friday when staffing allows.

The department is staffed by five full-time firefighters, and 35 on-call firefighters. After hours and on weekends, the department operates with a pager system which will alert the on-call members, (possibly your neighbors) to respond to emergencies. Should you be on the road and notice a car with a flashing red light, please yield; this is a call member responding to the station for an emergency.

We respond to various types of emergencies, with the most prominent being medical aid requests. The Boxford Fire Department does not transport patients; we utilize an out-of-town ambulance agency for those requiring transport. We do however, stabilize and prepare patients for transport based on their needs. Route 95, 97 and 133 are high traffic areas, which we respond to regularly.

As you drive through town, take note of the absence of fire hydrants. Boxford firefighters use natural and man-made resources in town such as ponds and tanks to deliver water; dry hydrants will be located at these areas. Dry hydrants consist of a piping system which is installed into ponds with a strainer on one end, and a truck hook-up on the other. Please remember to not block or park in the area of a hydrant. If there is a dry hydrant or tank on or near your property, please consider trimming vegetation around the hydrant in summer and shovel the snow away from the hydrant in the winter. Get in contact with us if you'd like to adopt a hydrant!

Within the apparatus at East and West stations a total of 9,300 gallons of water are carried, ready for use. Below is a list of fire apparatus at each station:

East

Engine 2: Pumper Truck: 2,500 gallons
Engine 4: Tanker Truck: 2,500 gallons
Engine 6: Pumper Truck: 500 gallons

West

Engine 1: Pumper Truck: 1,000 gallons
Engine 3: Tanker Truck: 2,500 gallons
Brush 1: Brush Truck: 300 gallons

Upon moving into town, we would like you to be aware of the rules, regulations and required permits for certain activities. The Fire Prevention Office works hard to instill this upon the citizens of the town to maintain a safe community. Please see the attached list of permits, regulations and services provided by the Boxford Fire Department.

Please remember that it is important to check your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors monthly, and change batteries every six months. If you ever have a problem with your units, do not hesitate to call us.



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Child Safety Seat Install	\$0	Please call Fire Prevention to make an appointment for car seat installations (978)887-5725
Open Burning	\$20	Open Burning is allowed from January 15 th to May 1 st . A permit is required for open burning; permits are available online or at East Station during working hours. You are required to report your fire (activate your permit) with the Communications Center (978)887-8136
Outdoor Cooking Fires	\$0	Please see the restrictions and regulations in the form attached. You are required to report your fire to the Communications Center (978)887-8136
LP Tank Install	Aboveground Storage Units: \$50 Underground Storage Units: \$50 per tank	Propane tank installations: Installation of all units and devices must be inspected. Permits must be pulled prior to the job start, by the company. Please inform the Fire Prevention Office upon completion for an on-site inspection (978)887-5725
Oil Burner or Storage Tank Install	\$50	Installation of all units and devices must be inspected. Permits must be pulled prior to the job start, by the company. Please inform the Fire Prevention Office upon completion for an on-site inspection (978)887-5725
Residential Tank Removal	\$50	If the tank is underground, a Dig Safe number is required. Permit must be obtained prior to tank removal. Tank must be inspected the day of removal, prior to being taken off the property



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Tank Truck Inspection/ Storage on Property	\$50	Inspection of vehicle at the fire station and issuance of permit for contractors with pickup/service trucks. Equipment will be approved following the 527 CMR 1.00 and M.G.L. Chapter 148 regulations. Call (978)887-5725 to set up an appointment
Cutting & Welding	\$50	Valid for 30 days, permit must be acquired by welder only . A firewatch may be required at the discretion of the Fire Prevention Office. If a firewatch is required: 3 business days' notice is needed for all fire details; payment is due within 30 days from the date of invoice
Report Requests	By Homeowner: \$0 Other Party: \$25	Report requests by the homeowner must be released to the homeowner. All other parties are subject to a \$25 fee. Report requests include: permit records, tank removal records, emergency response, Fire Reports, etc.
26B New Construction & Remodels	Plans Review: \$50 Final Inspection: \$50	Review and inspection of new construction, remodels, and additions is required. Fire Department signature is required for rough and final inspections on the Occupancy Permit
26F & 26F ½ Resale	\$50	Smoke and Carbon Monoxide inspection for Home Resale: A certificate of compliance is required for the resale of the home. Call (978)887-5725 to make an appointment. Certificate is valid for 60 days



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Outdoor Fire Pit Regulations

Fire Pits must be used appropriately; when use is altered, fire pits will be subject to Mass DEP open burning regulation. Open burning season is from January to May and requires a permit.

At single family dwellings (with the owner's permission), there are no special permits required in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the use of outdoor fire pits, cooking, or recreational fires. There are however, several requirements based on the Department of Environmental Protection regulations (DEP), the Massachusetts State Fire Laws & Codes (ML Chapter 148 & 527 CMR), the 2009 International Fire Code (IFC) and the State Fire Marshal (SFM):

- Fire must be small and manageable, no greater than 3 feet in diameter. A fire larger than 3 feet in diameter is no longer considered a cooking or recreational fire (IFC). Flames shall be a maximum of 2 feet above ground level.
- All fires must be constantly attended by a competent person (18 years and older) until the fire is extinguished
- A fire extinguisher, garden hose, or water bucket must be available for quick extinguishment if necessary (IFC)
- Fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or any combustible materials (IFC)
- The fire pit shall be placed on a flat, noncombustible surface. An area of 50 feet should be cleared around the fire pit in all directions, and clear of all dry vegetation and combustibles. Make sure the fire pit is placed away from other materials that could burn or catch fire, paying attention to overhead and side exposure areas (IFC and SFM)
- The burning of trash, painted or stained wood and construction debris is prohibited by the DEP. Never use wet or damp wood; this creates needless, irritating smoke. Always use dry seasoned wood, charcoal, or specialist fuel
- Never use an accelerant to light any fire
- Environmental condition will limit or exclude the use of Recreational Fire such as bad air quality, or a 4 or 5 Fire Danger classifications (DEP)
- Should the fire cause nuisance to neighbors or surrounding areas, the Boxford Fire Department will investigate, and determine if the fire will be extinguished (MGL Chapter 148) & (527 CMR)

Burn will be halted at Fire Officer's discretion for violation of any regulation

**You are required to call the Communications Center prior to the start of your fire (978) 887-8136
The Fire Department strongly suggests you follow the manufacturer's recommendations when
using any above-ground fire pit or chiminea.**



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Open Burning Regulations

Permits are available online via <https://epay.cityhallsystems.com/selection>

Open burning is allowed January 15th to May 1st each year, with the purpose of clearing fallen debris from previous storms, yard cleanup, etc. Permitting follows provisions of 310 CMR 7.07, which gives the homeowner permission to conduct an open burn on their property. Regulations are as follows:

Requirements:

- Burning during the open burning season may be conducted only after obtaining a seasonal permit from the Fire Department
- Permit must be activated online, or by calling (978) 887-8137
- Environmental condition will limit or exclude the use of Open Burning such as bad air quality, or a 4 or 5 Fire Danger classifications (DEP)
- Burning may be conducted from 10:00 AM and must be completely extinguished by 4:00 PM
- Burn must be conducted on the homeowner's property, and no less than 75 feet away from all buildings
- Should the fire cause nuisance to neighbors or surrounding areas, the Boxford Fire Department will investigate, and determine if the fire will be extinguished (MGL Chapter 148) & (527 CMR)
- All fires must be constantly attended by a competent person (18 years and older) until the fire is extinguished
- A water source capable of controlling the fire must be available at all times
- Never use an accelerant to light any fire

Burning is allowed for the following materials:

- Brush, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris from non-commercial and non-industrial land clearing operations
- Materials normally associated with the pursuit or agricultural such as fruit tree pruning, dead raspberry stalks, blueberry patches for pruning purposes, and infected bee hives for disease control
- Trees and brush resulting from agricultural land clearing
- Fungus infected elm wood, if no other acceptable means of disposal is available

Prohibited items:

- Trees, logs, or limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter are not considered brush, and therefore, may not be burned
- Brush, cane, driftwood, and forestry debris from commercial or industrial land clearing operations
- Grass, hay, leaves, stumps, and tires
- Construction material and debris

If the fire gets out of control, call 911 immediately. Report your location, approximate size of fire, and best access for apparatus