



# CLAY FIRE

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## For Immediate Release

**Date:** October 27, 2014

**Subject:** Illegal Open Burning

**Contact Person:** Dave Cherrone, Fire Marshal

The number of calls to the St. Joseph County Fire Dispatch regarding unauthorized open burning are increasing this afternoon. In the past 90 minutes, five such fires have been reported in Clay Township alone. We anticipate that number will grow as the day continues.

Please remind your listeners that **no leaf burning is allowed in unincorporated** areas of St. Joseph County **while the leaf pick-up program is in progress**. As in the past, once the leaf pick-up schedule has been completed throughout the county, the County Commissioners will select a week in which leaves remaining after the collection process, may be burned.

Any time open burning takes place, certain guidelines are in place; burn piles must be attended at all times, no burning on windy days, no burning after dusk.

Local law enforcement may issue citations for violations of the burning ordinance.