

ERIE EDITION

JULY 2022



Standing water is a breeding ground for mosquitos. Avoid overwatering lawns and gardens.
WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW > erieco.gov/Mosquito



Understand the 3-Bin Waste System at Events
READ NOW > erieco.gov/1939/Zero-Waste-Events



Slurpees for Good Behavior This Summer!
MORE > erieco.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2765

Share Your Story of Kindness in Erie
SHARE > erieco.us/erie-is-kind

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Kindness
Challenge

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DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Mitigating Possible Fire Hazards

As we enter another dry and hot summer, we should all be considering ways to mitigate the risk of possible fire dangers near our homes. You can rest assured that the Town has a mitigation plan for all Town-owned and maintained properties, but there are also steps you should consider on your own property.

Ignition Zones: Limit the amount of flammable vegetation between your home and property line. Removing brush build-up in and around your yard reduces fuel for wildfire spread. When landscaping, maintain a distance between plantings and structures – a Fuel Break – especially consider space between trees and structures.

Landscaping & Maintenance: To reduce ember ignitions and fire spread, trim branches that overhang your home, porch, and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet (depending on their height) from the ground. Remove plants from your landscaping that contain resins, oils, and waxes. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches within 5ft of your home.

Deck & Porches: Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks and porches and between deck board joints.

Dumping: Discarding grass clippings, sod, soil, yard waste, trash, debris, landscape materials, and dog waste over your property line is harmful to open space and can cause hazardous conditions. This also includes general trash and debris accumulation. Always dispose of waste in appropriate receptacles.

Pre-Disaster Discussions: Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for handling pets. Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a predesignated meeting place. Always evacuate if you feel it's unsafe to stay—don't wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened from the fire. Conduct an annual insurance policy checkup to adjust for local building costs, codes, and new renovations. Create or update a home inventory to help settle claims faster.



Myth vs Facts

We recognize the warm weather and drier-than-usual conditions and have heard your concerns regarding our Town-maintained open space and the potential for wildfires in urban landscapes.

The Parks & Recreation Department utilizes nationally recognized best management practices that include several mowing techniques and strategies for open space land based on its proximity to adjacent properties and trail corridors, desirable and non-desirable plant composition and diversity, slope, terrain, and wildlife habitat, etc. These techniques and strategies include no mow, entirely mow, and partially mow zones with frequencies ranging from never to multiple times per year dependent on the individual characteristics of the property.

Visit the website below to learn how the Parks Division effectively manages grasslands in parks and on open space.



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