Open Burning

**DETERMINE IF YOU CAN BURN**
DEQ has a defined burn boundary within the fire district that specifies where open burning (backyard burning) is not allowed. If you are unsure whether burning is allowed in your area, contact Fire Prevention at (503)742-2660. If allowed to burn yard debris, it is not necessary to acquire a permit. (See Special Burn Permits for exceptions)

**BURNING SEASONS**
Open burning is allowed only during the following dates in Spring & Fall:

- March 1 to June 15
- October 1 to December 15

**PROCEDURE**
Call the recorded burn message (503)632-0211 daily to determine if you can burn. Burning is allowed only during the specified burn times. Fires must be smoke free at the end of the specified burn times.

**COMPLIANCE**
Only vegetation debris may be burned. Comply with all OPEN FIRE SAFETY RULES in this brochure. Non-compliance of burning rules may incur fines.

**REMEMBER TO PLEASE BURN SAFELY!**
If Your Fire Gets out of Control
Dial 911

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Special Burn Permits

The following require a burn permit. Contact Fire Prevention (503)742-2660 for application and/or site inspection.

1. Burn piles larger than 10'X10'X10'. DEQ has imposed special air pollution regulations prohibiting slash and stump burning within 6 miles of an incorporated city.
2. If qualified, 3 year Agricultural burn permit.
3. Agricultural operations inside DEQ prohibited burn areas.
4. In ground cooking fires, bonfires, ceremonial.

Recreational Burning

An occasional campfire or cooking fire is permitted throughout the year in all areas of the fire district. **Exception:** During severe fire conditions all outdoor open burning is banned.

1. Only the burning of seasoned, cut firewood is allowed. No trash, yard debris, or other prohibited items!
2. Firewood shall be stacked no larger than 3 ft. in diameter and 2 ft. in height.
3. Keep burn pit 25 ft from any structure or combustible material - 10 ft if contained in an approved barbecue pit. An approved barbecue pit is 4" in diameter and 12" in height with non-combustible sides of metal, rock, etc.
4. Complaints by neighbors of smoke disturbances warrant the immediate extinguishment of your recreational fire.

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Open Fire Safety Rules

1. Open fires must be limited in size, be controlled, and not be a hazard to people, property, or standing vegetation.
2. Open burning shall not be conducted within 50 ft of any structure or other combustible material. Conditions which could cause the fire to spread to within 50 ft of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. Exception: Clearance from structures and other combustible materials may be reduced as follows:
   a) Not less than 15 ft when burning is conducted in an approved burning appliance such as a burn barrel.
   b) Not less than 25 ft when the burn pile size is 1 cubic yard or less in diameter.
3. No fire may be larger than 10'X10'X10' without a Special Burn Permit.
4. A garden hose connected to a water supply and a shovel or other approved fire-extinguishing equipment shall be readily available.
5. Burning material shall be constantly attended by a person knowledgeable in the use of the fire-extinguishing equipment. An attendant shall supervise the burning material until the fire has been extinguished.
6. Burning of materials in any manner where smoke or flame damages or endangers persons or property of others is prohibited.
7. All fires shall be extinguished two hours before sunset unless otherwise specified.

Enforcement

Burning in violation of these rules is both an Oregon Fire Code violation and a violation of DEQ Air Pollution Regulations. Failure to comply with the Oregon Fire Code is a misdemeanor under ORS 478.960 and 478.990(2).

Open burning violation responses will be billed on a flat fee basis. A $156.00 minimum fee includes first 30 minutes of apparatus and staff time. Responses requiring multiple units, lasting longer than 30 minutes, or requiring additional site visits may be billed using established hourly rates for all apparatus and staff committed. Refer to Clackamas Fire District #1 Ordinance No. 09-01 for more details.

Violation of air pollution regulations may result in a fine of up to $10,000 per day from DEQ.

Any open fire must be extinguished by the responsible party when so ordered by any officer of a police or fire department if it is determined that the smoke emissions are offensive to occupants or surrounding property, or if burning is determined to constitute a hazardous condition or appears to endanger the property or persons of others.

The person responsible can be held liable for damages to other persons or other person’s property as a result of their fire.

PROHIBITED BURNING MATERIALS:
- Garbage
- Paper
- Plastic
- Rubber
- Wire insulation, asphalt
- Cardboard
- Construction debris
- Auto parts
- Petroleum products or treated materials
- Animal remains
- Materials which normally emit dense smoke or noxious odors
- Slash from land clearing
- Burning of uncut or standing vegetation
- Materials transported from another location for the purpose of the being burned.
- Old straw or hay
- Animal bedding debris such as saw dust or woodchips mixed with manure
- Treated lumber

At no time are above materials to be burned.