



Cowlitz County

County Administration Building
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www.co.cowlitz.wa.us

News Release

Burn Ban in Effect on July 1, 2018

June 21, 2018

Effective 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2018, Cowlitz County, in cooperation with emergency service officials from Clark, and other counties will be enacting restrictions on outdoor burning. On July 1, all land clearing, residential and silvicultural burning will be restricted until further notice. The Cowlitz County Fire Marshal is rescinding all burn permits issued prior to the burn ban; they can be reissued or extended when the ban is lifted.

In an effort to have predictable and consistent burn ban dates, Cowlitz and Clark counties implemented a policy to ban outdoor burning from July 15, through Sept. 30th each year. However, due to extreme fire hazard conditions this year, the ban is declared earlier than the traditional date of July 15TH. Please contact the Cowlitz County Fire Marshal's Office to be sure the ban has been lifted before resuming any burning after September 30TH.

Recreational campfires are allowed if built in improved fire pits in designated campgrounds, such as those typically found in local, county, and state parks and in commercial campgrounds. On private land, recreational fires are permitted with the landowner's permission if built in the following approved manner:

- In a metal, stone or masonry lined fire pit such as those seen in approved campgrounds.
- Size may not exceed 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.
- Fires must be at least 25 feet from a structure or other combustible material and overhead fuels such as tree limbs, patio covers or carports.
- Portable outdoor or patio fireplaces should not be used within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Fires must be attended at all times by a responsible person at least 16-years old with the ability and tools to extinguish the fire, such as a shovel and either five gallons of water or a connected and charged water hose.

Please remember to completely extinguish campfires by pouring water or moist soil in them and stirring with a shovel until all parts are cool to the touch. The use of self-contained camp stoves is encouraged as an alternative.

For more information, please contact the Cowlitz County Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 577-3052 or visit the County's website at www.co.cowlitz.wa.us.

Contact

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