



# Cowlitz County

County Administration Building  
207 Fourth Avenue North  
Kelso, WA 98626  
[www.co.cowlitz.wa.us](http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us)

## News Release

### Emergency Burn Ban in Effect Beginning May 9, 2019

May 8, 2019

Effective Thursday May 9, 2019 at 12:00 AM Cowlitz County will be enacting restrictions on outdoor burning. Unusually high temperatures, low humidity and high winds have increased risk of fire hazard. The emergency burn ban is expected to be in place temporarily through Monday, May 13, 2019 or until further notice. All land clearing, residential and silvicultural burning will be restricted until the ban is lifted. 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.

#### Contact

Mike Wilson,  
Building Official  
Fire Marshal's Office  
Phone: (360) 577-3052 Ext. 6655  
[wilsonm@co.cowlitz.wa.us](mailto:wilsonm@co.cowlitz.wa.us)

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](http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us).

###