

In Washington State ...

- ◆ It is always illegal to use a **BURN BARREL.**
- ◆ It is always illegal to burn prohibited materials including:
 - ◆ Garbage or refuse
 - ◆ Cardboard and paper
 - ◆ Building materials including paints, vinyl flooring, roofing and scrap lumber
 - ◆ Rubber products, including tires
 - ◆ Plastics or petroleum products
 - ◆ Material that produces smoke that is offensive or harmful to your neighbors
- ◆ It is always illegal to smoke out your **neighbor.** If they complain, you are required to put the fire out immediately. You can be fined for causing a nuisance, and you may be held financially liable for damages caused by your fire

For more information about other types of burning and regulations, contact your fire department or the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.



1-800-552-3565 www.pscleanair.org



18421 Veterans Memorial Dr. E.
Bonney Lake, WA 98391
www.eastpiercefirerescue.org
253-863-1800



Residential Yard Debris Burning Guidelines

Be sure to burn responsibly!



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Residential Yard & Garden Debris Burning

Residential Yard & Garden debris burning is allowed in East Pierce Fire & Rescue to residents who live outside city limits, the Carbon Monoxide Non-attainment area and Urban Growth Area during the designated dates, and only with a burn permit.

1. Residential burn size will not exceed four (4) feet in diameter by three (3) feet in height.
2. The pile must be fifty (50) feet from any structure and ten (10) feet from property lines.
3. Only dry, natural vegetation may be burned, such as lawn clippings, leaves, pine needles, and small tree trimmings.
4. Residential fires are allowed during daylight hours only, and only one pile at a time may be burned.
5. A garden hose, connected to a water supply is required on site for all residential fires, *or* a shovel and five (5) gallons of water must be at the burn site at all times.
6. No outdoor burning shall be allowed during any stage of an air pollution episode or impaired air quality, as directed by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.



Frequently Asked Questions

May I burn my excess yard and garden debris?

- ◆ Limited residential outdoor burning is allowed in portions of East Pierce Fire & Rescue during the designated outdoor burning season. Residents who live outside the city limits, Urban Growth Boundary and Carbon Monoxide Non-attainment Areas are allowed to burn their residential yard and garden debris. Contact East Pierce Fire & Rescue to see if you are outside these areas.

When may I burn?

- ◆ Permits shall be issued October 1st—May 31st for a period not to exceed one burn season. Please note, issuing of burn permits is subject to change due to weather and/or air quality conditions. Call 800-595-4341 or www.pscleanair.org for current conditions.

Where can I obtain a burn permit?

East Pierce Fire & Rescue—Headquarters Station
18421 Veterans Memorial Dr. E., Bonney Lake 98391
(253) 863-1800 / M-F 8am-4:30pm

What may I burn?

- ◆ Outdoor burning is strictly limited to yard and garden debris, (*natural vegetation ONLY*) that is generated on the property.
- ◆ **Burning of the following materials is prohibited:** Processed wood products, including finished lumber, paper products, plywood and particle board; construction or demolition debris; paints, asphalt and petroleum products; plastic products; tires and rubber products, garbage and dead animals.

What are the alternatives to burning my yard and garden debris?

- ◆ **HAUL IT!** Rake up your excess material and haul it to your nearest Recycling/Transfer Station. Also, check with your local waste disposal company for curbside yard waste recycling availability.
- ◆ **COMPOST IT!** Composting yard and garden waste protects the air, land and water resources while providing a rich garden fertilizer.
- ◆ **CHIP IT!** Some residents are choosing to chip their debris. Chippers may be rented or a chipping service hired to take care of your material. Wood chips make excellent mulch around trees and shrubs and can also be used to soften garden paths.
- ◆ **MULCH IT!** By mulching, we can easily put nature's recycling system to work in our own backyard. Spread yard and garden debris around shrubs, trees, and other plantings. Mulching keeps the soil loose and moist, smothers weeds, prevents soil loss and releases nutrients as it decomposes.

Discontinuance:

- ◆ The burning permit may be suspended or revoked when it is determined by the fire department or Puget Sound Clean Air Agency that any conditions or limitations have not been met or due to atmospheric conditions.