

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



www.eastpiercefirerescue.org
(253) 863-1800



Residential Burning Requirements

Please burn responsibly!



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Residential Burning

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

1. Fire size will not exceed four (4) feet in diameter by three (3) feet in height.
2. The pile must be at least fifty (50) feet from any structure and ten (10) feet from property lines, fences, or docks and the surrounding area shall be clear and have no overhanging branches.
3. Only dry, natural vegetation may be burned, such as leaves, pine needles, and small tree trimmings. **Grass clippings are NOT allowed.**
4. Residential fires are allowed between 8:00 AM and sunset 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 a burn ban.
7. No burning is allowed when winds reach or exceed 5 mph.
8. A competent person, at least 18 years of age, must be present at all times until such fire has been completely extinguished.



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 Area and Non-attainment Areas are allowed to burn their residential yard and garden debris. Visit www.eastpiercefirerescue.org and use the interactive map to see if you are in a designated burn.

When may I burn?

The burn season is October 1st—May 31st. Permits are available for a period not to exceed one burn season. Please note, burning is subject to change due to weather and/or air quality conditions. Visit www.eastpiercefirerescue.org for current conditions.

Where can I obtain a burn permit?

Permits are available online ONLY at www.eastpiercefirerescue.org

Use this code for a shortcut!



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 district or Puget Sound Clean Air Agency that any conditions or limitations have not been met or due to atmospheric conditions.