

West Silver Valley Citizens Advisory Committee  
March 19<sup>th</sup>

The West Silver Valley Citizen Advisory Committee met on Thursday March 19 at the Panhandle Health office in Kellogg. In attendance were 11 local residents. The meeting started off with the group deciding that commitment forms were not necessary. Only 4 members had actually signed the forms and up to approximately 20 residents regularly attend the meeting. It was also noted that some had not received the latest email; the email list will be reviewed for completeness. Action items included sending a letter from the group to the Shoshone News Press thanking them for putting AQI and burn information in the paper; having a WSV Facebook page and inviting a representative of the Shoshone Medical Center to attend the meetings.

1. Introductions (5 min)

- Attending the March 19 meeting were; Bob Launhardt, Rona Liller, Cathleen Sanborn, Andy Helkey, Carol Young, Kjell Truesdell, Commissioner Jay Huber, Mayor Joe Guardipee, Karen Pearson, Barry Pearson, Rex Gettman, DEQ Staff; Mark Boyle, Denna Grangaard, Ralph Paul.

2. Committee Business (15 min)

- **Group Participation** – The group decided that signing the commitment form to be a member was not necessary. The group identified the priority for members should be on participation not on signing a commitment form. Currently the group has experienced very good participation. A proposal to create smaller sub-groups that would be tasked with engaging in specific efforts was forwarded. The group was provided a handout which described efficiencies and successes which could be realized if we organized in this manner. The group supported this idea, was tasked with reviewing the handout after the meeting, and committed to identifying potential sub-groups and discussing further at the next meeting. An outreach sub-group was immediately identified during the meeting and was assigned a couple tasks which are identified below.
- **Communication** – The email notification list will be double checked for accuracy and updated after hearing that some members may not have received previous emails.

3. Action Items (10 min)

- **AQI burn message** – The group was updated on changes that were made to enhance readability. Black outlining of the yellow wording was done. However, the newspaper did not run the message for several days, so it was unknown if the changes improved readability or not. Group members were encouraged to contact the newspaper individually to let the editor know that the information was appreciated by the community. The group decided to send a letter to the Shoshone News Press Editor expressing satisfaction with getting the AQI/burn message posted in the paper and describing the group's focus of clean air in the valley and the current efforts to reduce the impact of emissions. DEQ will draft a letter and send it to the group for comments prior to it being finalized and sent to the News Press by the group.

4. Topic Discussion (25 min)

- **Outdoor open burning** – Chief Mark Aamodt, Shoshone County Fire Protection District No. 2 was unable to attend the meeting and will be invited to the next meeting. A general discussion ensued regarding the handouts (fire codes, Kootenai County Fire Protection Ordinance, attached). The handouts were provided to give background information and to illustrate how Kootenai County F&R utilize the codes to require permits year-round for open burning.

- **Outreach and education** – The group was queried on making brochures. Most felt there was too much information and a simple message was needed. Posters were discussed as a possibility but some felt the posters would be ignored if left up too long. Billboards, water bottles, refrigerator magnets will be explored as possible ways of communicating a burn message. The idea of placing signs along the road was also discussed. DEQ will investigate the costs of some of the items and report back to the group. Carol Young offered to make a WSV Facebook page and it was agreed that this should be tried. She was also tasked with designing a logo for the group.  
Bob Launhardt brought up the issue of radon combining with small smoke particles and that was a health threat and that he had contacts with the Shoshone Medical Center. The group agreed that radon is a health concern however the group decided to table engaging in the radon issue till a later date after the critical work on smoke reductions is completed. The group tasked Bob with inviting a representative of Shoshone Medical Center to become a participating member of the group.  
Cathleen Sanborn Silver Valley EDC informed the group that she was exploring grant possibilities for a possible woodstove exchange. She will continue with her efforts and report back to the group.  
Commissioner Huber supported pursuing grant dollars to bring resources into the valley. Cathleen also noted that there may be the possibility of slash collection by a private party if a proposed firewood business idea comes to fruition.  
Barry Pearson inquired if reducing wood stove smoke in the valley would solve the problem and if not, then what would be the next step. It was pointed out that DEQ is completing a filter analysis to help determine what level of reductions from open burning and woodstoves would be needed to answer that question. This analysis would also help better define the mobile source contribution for the area. The report will be made available when it is completed and will be a basis for determining reduction needs.  
Rona Liller brought up the idea of the group holding a “public meeting” in order to let the community know what the group was doing and why. This will be explored further at future meetings.

5. Comments (5 min)

Other than the Radon discussion no other comments were received.

6. Next meeting – April 16<sup>th</sup> 6 - 7 PM  
Pinehurst City Hall

Adjourn

## Meeting Attachments

### KOOTENAI COUNTY WILDFIRE PREVENTION ORDINANCE

4-1-2: OPEN BURNING<sup>2</sup>:  

A. Title: This section may be referred to as the *KOOTENAI COUNTY WILDFIRE PREVENTION ORDINANCE*.

B. Authority And Jurisdiction: This section is adopted pursuant to the powers granted by Idaho constitution article 12, section 2 and the statutes of the state of Idaho, including, but not limited to, Idaho Code 31-714. This chapter shall apply in the unincorporated area of Kootenai County, Idaho.

C. Findings And Purpose:

1. The board of county commissioners hereby finds that an emergency exists because of the current extremely high potential for catastrophic fire in Kootenai County. Additionally, the board finds that the danger of catastrophic fire in the county is likely to be extremely high in the future. Therefore, the board finds that enactment of this section is necessary for the safety, the promotion of the health and prosperity and the improvement of the morals, peace and good order, comfort and convenience of the county and the inhabitants thereof, and for the protection of public and private property situated within the county.

2. This section is intended to provide a means for the enforcement of prohibitions and restrictions on burning adopted by federal and state agencies that administer public lands located within the county, or by any fire protection district or other governmental entity having jurisdiction located entirely or partially within the county.

D. Definitions:

**BURNING:** Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire or any other act which results in the combustion of any material.

**FIREPLACE AREA:** A portion of an approved campground or other authorized facility which is constructed of concrete or metal and which is officially designated by the government entity having jurisdiction as the authorized location for having fires at the facility.

**UNAUTHORIZED BURNING:** Any burning that is not authorized or permitted by a federal or state agency, fire protection district or other governmental entity having jurisdiction.

E. Prohibitions:

1. No person shall engage in "unauthorized burning", as defined in subsection D of this section, nor shall any person permit, cause or allow any unauthorized burning.

2. No person shall permit, cause or allow any burning in a fireplace area when the government entity having jurisdiction has prohibited burning in such areas.

3. No person shall violate the terms of any order pertaining to burning, fires or related activities that has been duly issued by a federal or state agency, fire protection district or other governmental entity having jurisdiction in accordance with applicable federal or state laws or regulations and is then in full force and effect. (Ord. 317, 8-1-2003)

F. Penalties: Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be punished as provided in the general penalty in section [1-4-1](#) of this code. (Ord. 317, 8-1-2003; amd. 2004 Code)

Footnotes - Click any footnote link to go back to its reference.

[Footnote 1](#): See section [4-3-15](#) of this title.

[Footnote 2](#): See also section [6-2-9](#) of this code.

# IDAHO FIRE CODE

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

projection room complying with Section 409 of the *International Building Code*.

**306.2 Cellulose nitrate film storage.** Storage of cellulose nitrate film shall be in accordance with NFPA 40.

### SECTION 307 OPEN BURNING, RECREATIONAL FIRES AND PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACES

**307.1 General.** A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any *open burning* unless conducted and *approved* in accordance with this section.

**307.1.1 Prohibited open burning.** *Open burning* that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

**307.2 Permit required.** A permit shall be obtained from the *fire code official* in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or a bonfire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the *owner* of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled.

**307.2.1 Authorization.** Where required by state or local law or regulations, *open burning* shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state or local air and water quality management authority, provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed.

**307.3 Extinguishment authority.** The *fire code official* is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of *open burning* that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

**307.4 Location.** The location for *open burning* shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of any structure.

#### Exceptions:

1. Fires in *approved* containers that are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from a structure.
2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet (7620 mm) where the pile size is 3 feet (914 mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610 mm) or less in height.

**307.4.1 Bonfires.** A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

**307.4.2 Recreational fires.** *Recreational fires* shall not be conducted within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

**307.4.3 Portable outdoor fireplaces.** Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet (3048 mm) of a structure or combustible material.

**Exception:** Portable outdoor fireplaces used at one- and two-family *dwellings*.

**307.5 Attendance.** *Open burning*, bonfires, *recreational fires* and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other *approved* on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

### SECTION 308 OPEN FLAMES

**308.1 General.** Open flame, fire and burning on all premises shall be in accordance with Sections 308.1.1 through 308.4.1 and with other applicable sections of this code.

**308.1.1 Where prohibited.** A person shall not take or utilize an open flame or light in a structure, vessel, boat or other place where highly flammable, combustible or explosive material is utilized or stored. Lighting appliances shall be well-secured in a glass globe and wire mesh cage or a similar *approved* device.

**308.1.2 Throwing or placing sources of ignition.** No person shall throw or place, or cause to be thrown or placed, a lighted match, cigar, cigarette, matches, or other flaming or glowing substance or object on any surface or article where it can cause an unwanted fire.

**308.1.3 Torches for removing paint.** *Persons* utilizing a torch or other flame-producing device for removing paint from a structure shall provide a minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 and with a minimum 4-A rating, two portable fire extinguishers, each with a minimum 2-A rating, or a water hose connected to the water supply on the premises where such burning is done. The *person* doing the burning shall remain on the premises 1 hour after the torch or flame-producing device is utilized.

**308.1.4 Open-flame cooking devices.** Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

#### Exceptions:

1. One- and two-family *dwellings*.
2. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an *automatic sprinkler system*.
3. LP-gas cooking devices having LP-gas container with a water capacity not greater than 2½ pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity].

**308.1.5 Location near combustibles.** Open flames such as from candles, lanterns, kerosene heaters and gas-fired heaters shall not be located on or near decorative material or similar combustible materials.

**308.1.6 Open-flame devices.** Torches and other devices, machines or processes liable to start or cause fire shall not be operated or used in or upon wildfire risk areas, except by a permit in accordance with Section 105.6 secured from the *fire code official*.

**Exception:** Use within inhabited premises or designated campsites which are a minimum of 30 feet (9144 mm) from grass-, grain-, brush- or forest-covered areas.

**308.1.6.1 Signals and markers.** Flame-employing devices, such as lanterns or kerosene road flares, shall not be operated or used as a signal or marker in or upon wildfire risk areas.

**Exception:** The proper use of fuses at the scenes of emergencies or as required by standard railroad operating procedures.

**308.1.6.2 Portable fueled open-flame devices.** Portable open-flame devices fueled by flammable or combustible gases or liquids shall be enclosed or installed in such a manner as to prevent the flame from contacting combustible material.

**Exceptions:**

1. LP-gas-fueled devices used for sweating pipe joints or removing paint in accordance with Chapter 38.
2. Cutting and welding operations in accordance with Chapter 26.
3. Torches or flame-producing devices in accordance with Section 308.4.
4. Candles and open-flame decorative devices in accordance with Section 308.3.

**308.1.7 Religious ceremonies.** When, in the opinion of the *fire code official*, adequate safeguards have been taken, participants in religious ceremonies are allowed to carry hand-held candles. Hand-held candles shall not be passed from one *person* to another while lighted.

**308.1.7.1 Aisles and exits.** Candles shall be prohibited in areas where occupants stand, or in an *aisle* or *exit*.

**308.1.8 Flaming food and beverage preparation.** The preparation of flaming foods or beverages in places of assembly and drinking or dining establishments shall be in accordance with Sections 308.1.8.1 through 308.1.8.5.

**308.1.8.1 Dispensing.** Flammable or *combustible liquids* used in the preparation of flaming foods or beverages shall be dispensed from one of the following:

1. A 1-ounce (29.6 ml) container; or
2. A container not exceeding 1-quart (946.5 ml) capacity with a controlled pouring device that will limit the flow to a 1-ounce (29.6 ml) serving.

**308.1.8.2 Containers not in use.** Containers shall be secured to prevent spillage when not in use.

**308.1.8.3 Serving of flaming food.** The serving of flaming foods or beverages shall be done in a safe manner and shall not create high flames. The pouring, ladling or

spooning of liquids is restricted to a maximum height of 8 inches (203 mm) above the receiving receptacle.

**308.1.8.4 Location.** Flaming foods or beverages shall be prepared only in the immediate vicinity of the table being serviced. They shall not be transported or carried while burning.

**308.1.8.5 Fire protection.** The *person* preparing the flaming foods or beverages shall have a wet cloth towel immediately available for use in smothering the flames in the event of an emergency.

**308.2 Permits required.** Permits shall be obtained from the *fire code official* in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to engaging in the following activities involving open flame, fire and burning:

1. Use of a torch or flame-producing device to remove paint from a structure.
2. Use of open flame, fire or burning in connection with Group A or E occupancies.
3. Use or operation of torches and other devices, machines or processes liable to start or cause fire in or upon wildfire risk areas.

**308.3 Group A occupancies.** Open-flame devices shall not be used in a Group A occupancy.

**Exceptions:**

1. Open-flame devices are allowed to be used in the following situations, provided *approved* precautions are taken to prevent ignition of a combustible material or injury to occupants:
  - 1.1. Where necessary for ceremonial or religious purposes in accordance with Section 308.1.7.
  - 1.2. On stages and platforms as a necessary part of a performance in accordance with Section 308.3.2.
  - 1.3. Where candles on tables are securely supported on substantial noncombustible bases and the candle flames are protected.
2. Heat-producing equipment complying with Chapter 6 and the *International Mechanical Code*.
3. Gas lights are allowed to be used provided adequate precautions satisfactory to the *fire code official* are taken to prevent ignition of combustible materials.

**308.3.1 Open-flame decorative devices.** Open-flame decorative devices shall comply with all of the following restrictions:

1. Class I and Class II liquids and LP-gas shall not be used.
2. Liquid- or solid-fueled lighting devices containing more than 8 ounces (237 ml) of fuel must self-extinguish and not leak fuel at a rate of more than 0.25 teaspoon per minute (1.26 ml per minute) if tipped over.
3. The device or holder shall be constructed to prevent the spillage of liquid fuel or wax at the rate of more

than 0.25 teaspoon per minute (1.26 ml per minute) when the device or holder is not in an upright position.

4. The device or holder shall be designed so that it will return to the upright position after being tilted to an angle of 45 degrees from vertical.

**Exception:** Devices that self-extinguish if tipped over and do not spill fuel or wax at the rate of more than 0.25 teaspoon per minute (1.26 ml per minute) if tipped over.

5. The flame shall be enclosed except where openings on the side are not more than 0.375 inch (9.5 mm) diameter or where openings are on the top and the distance to the top is such that a piece of tissue paper placed on the top will not ignite in 10 seconds.
6. Chimneys shall be made of noncombustible materials and securely attached to the open-flame device.
 

**Exception:** A chimney is not required to be attached to any open-flame device that will self-extinguish if the device is tipped over.
7. Fuel canisters shall be safely sealed for storage.
8. Storage and handling of *combustible liquids* shall be in accordance with Chapter 34.
9. Shades, where used, shall be made of noncombustible materials and securely attached to the open-flame device holder or chimney.
10. Candelabras with flame-lighted candles shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning, and shall be located away from occupants using the area and away from possible contact with drapes, curtains or other combustibles.

**308.3.2 Theatrical performances.** Where *approved*, open-flame devices used in conjunction with theatrical performances are allowed to be used when adequate safety precautions have been taken in accordance with NFPA 160.

**308.4 Group R occupancies.** Open flame, fire and burning in Group R occupancies shall comply with the requirements of Sections 308.1 through 308.1.6.2 and 308.4.1.

**308.4.1 Group R-2 dormitories.** Candles, incense and similar open-flame-producing items shall not be allowed in sleeping units in Group R-2 dormitory occupancies.

## SECTION 309

### POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT

**309.1 General.** Powered industrial trucks and similar equipment including, but not limited to, floor scrubbers and floor buffers, shall be operated and maintained in accordance with this section.

**309.2 Battery chargers.** Battery chargers shall be of an *approved* type. Combustible storage shall be kept a minimum of 3 feet (915 mm) from battery chargers. Battery charging shall not be conducted in areas accessible to the public.

**309.3 Ventilation.** Ventilation shall be provided in an *approved* manner in battery-charging areas to prevent a dangerous accumulation of flammable gases.

**309.4 Fire extinguishers.** Battery-charging areas shall be provided with a fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 having a minimum 4-A:20-B:C rating within 20 feet (6096 mm) of the battery charger.

**309.5 Refueling.** Powered industrial trucks using liquid fuel, LP-gas or hydrogen shall be refueled outside of buildings or in areas specifically *approved* for that purpose. Fixed fuel-dispensing equipment and associated fueling operations shall be in accordance with Chapter 22. Other fuel-dispensing equipment and operations, including cylinder exchange for LP-gas-fueled vehicles, shall be in accordance with Chapter 34 for flammable and *combustible liquids* or Chapter 38 for LP-gas.

**309.6 Repairs.** Repairs to fuel systems, electrical systems and repairs utilizing open flame or welding shall be done in *approved* locations outside of buildings or in areas specifically *approved* for that purpose.

## SECTION 310 SMOKING

**310.1 General.** The smoking or carrying of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette or any other type of smoking paraphernalia or material is prohibited in the areas indicated in Sections 310.2 through 310.8.

**310.2 Prohibited areas.** Smoking shall be prohibited where conditions are such as to make smoking a hazard, and in spaces where flammable or combustible materials are stored or handled.

**310.3 "No Smoking" signs.** The *fire code official* is authorized to order the posting of "No Smoking" signs in a conspicuous location in each structure or location in which smoking is prohibited. The content, lettering, size, color and location of required "No Smoking" signs shall be *approved*.

**310.4 Removal of signs prohibited.** A posted "No Smoking" sign shall not be obscured, removed, defaced, mutilated or destroyed.

**310.5 Compliance with "No Smoking" signs.** Smoking shall not be permitted nor shall a *person* smoke, throw or deposit any lighted or smoldering substance in any place where "No Smoking" signs are posted.

**310.6 Ash trays.** Where smoking is permitted, suitable noncombustible ash trays or match receivers shall be provided on each table and at other appropriate locations.

**310.7 Burning objects.** Lighted matches, cigarettes, cigars or other burning object shall not be discarded in such a manner that could cause ignition of other combustible material.

**310.8 Hazardous environmental conditions.** When the *fire code official* determines that hazardous environmental conditions necessitate controlled use of smoking materials, the ignition or use of such materials in mountainous, brush-covered or forest-covered areas or other designated areas is prohibited except in *approved* designated smoking areas.

# International Fire Code

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## **SECTION 307 OPEN BURNING, RECREATIONAL FIRES AND PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACES**

### **307.1 General.**

A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any *open burning* unless conducted and *approved* in accordance with [Sections 307.1.1](#) through [307.5](#).

#### **307.1.1 Prohibited open burning.**

Open burning shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.

**Exception:** Prescribed burning for the purpose of reducing the impact of wildland fire when authorized by the *fire code official*.

### **307.2 Permit required.**

A permit shall be obtained from the *fire code official* in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or a bonfire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the *owner* of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled.

#### **307.2.1 Authorization.**

Where required by state or local law or regulations, *open burning* shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state or local air and water quality management authority, provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed.

### **307.3 Extinguishment authority.**

When open burning creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for open burning has not been obtained, the *fire code official* is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning operation.

### **307.4 Location.**

The location for *open burning* shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of any structure.

**Exceptions:**

1. Fires in *approved* containers that are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from a structure.
2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet (7620 mm) where the pile size is 3 feet (914 mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610 mm) or less in height.

**307.4.1 Bonfires.**

A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

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**307.4.3 Portable outdoor fireplaces.**

Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet (3048 mm) of a structure or combustible material.

**Exception:** Portable outdoor fireplaces used at one- and two-family *dwellings*.

**307.5 Attendance.**

*Open burning*, bonfires, *recreational fires* and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with [Section 906](#) with a minimum 4-A rating or other *approved* on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

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## WSV CAC Meeting Dates 2015

January						
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## Brochures

### What is open burning?

Open burning is any burning conducted outdoors that does not pass through a stack, duct, or chimney. Open burning includes burning of residential solid waste, prescribed burns, crop residue burning, and fires for recreation and warming, weed control, and training. Fires in burn barrels are considered a form of open burning as well.

Open burning in Idaho is regulated by state law and rules, tribal code, and local ordinances. Sections 600-623 of the *Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho* describe the state's regulatory authority over open burning, under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The state rules apply to all lands other than the five Indian Reservations.

**Regulation of open burning is needed to minimize the impact of smoke on public health.**

Smoke generated by open burning is comprised primarily of small particles and gases. Smoke can irritate the eyes and airways, causing coughing, a scratchy throat, irritated sinuses, headaches, stinging eyes, or a runny nose. Inhaling smoke may worsen the symptoms of those with heart or respiratory conditions.

This brochure provides information on open burning of residential solid waste. Specifically, it covers:

- conditions under which residential open burning may occur
- materials that can and cannot be legally burned
- proper burning basics
- alternatives to burning
- protection against smoke impacts

A brief overview of other types of allowable open burning in Idaho is also provided.

### For more information

#### Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

**State Office**  
**Air Quality Division**  
1410 N. Hilton  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 373-0502

#### Regional Offices

**Boise**  
1445 N. Orchard  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 373-0550  
toll-free: (888) 800-3480

**Coeur d'Alene**  
2110 Ironwood Parkway  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
(208) 769-1422  
toll-free: (877) 370-0017

**Idaho Falls**  
900 N. Skyline, Suite B  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
(208) 528-2650  
toll-free: (800) 232-4635

**Lewiston**  
1118 F Street  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
(208) 799-4370  
toll-free: (877) 541-3304

**Pocatello**  
444 Hospital Way #300  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
(208) 236-6160  
toll-free: (888) 655-6160

**Twin Falls**  
650 Addison Ave. W,  
Suite 110  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208) 736-2190  
toll-free: (800) 270-1663

#### Web Resources

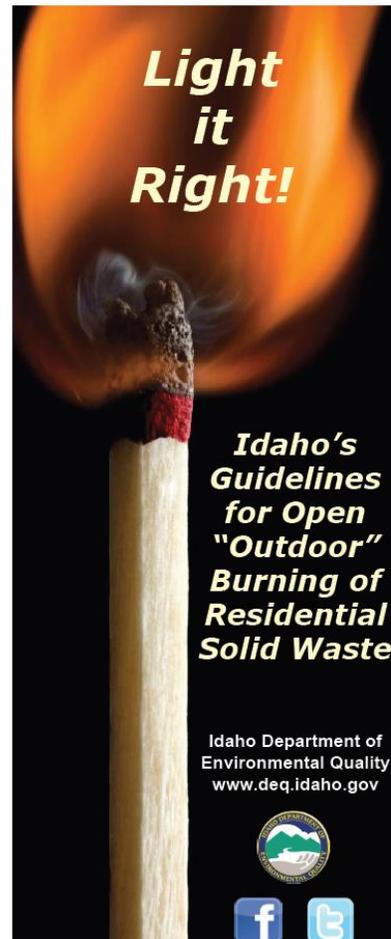
**Open "Outdoor" Burning Guidelines**  
[www.deq.idaho.gov/open-burning](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/open-burning)

**Residential "Backyard" Burning**  
[www.deq.idaho.gov/residential-open-burning](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/residential-open-burning)

**Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho**  
<http://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/58/0101.pdf>



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**Light it Right!**

**Idaho's Guidelines for Open "Outdoor" Burning of Residential Solid Waste**

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
[www.deq.idaho.gov](http://www.deq.idaho.gov)



## What residents can burn

*Unless a burn ban is in effect...*

...residents who have house-to-house garbage collection may burn tree leaves, garden waste, and yard trimmings if allowed by local government ordinances during certain periods of the year.

...residents who do not have house-to-house garbage collection may burn rubbish (such as paper and cardboard), tree leaves, garden waste, and yard trimmings if burning is conducted on the property where the waste was generated.

## What cannot be burned

Burning of most processed or manufactured materials is prohibited (exemptions may apply). These include:

- garbage from food preparation
- dead animals or animal waste
- junk motor vehicles or parts
- tires or other rubber materials
- plastics
- asphalt
- tar and petroleum materials
- paints
- preservative-treated wood
- trade waste (commercial, industrial, or construction)
- insulated wire
- pathogenic (disease-causing) waste
- hazardous waste

Local ordinances may further restrict or prohibit residential open burning. In addition, burners may be required to obtain permits in some jurisdictions.

### Burn Bans

DEQ may issue burn bans as a result of weather and air quality conditions. When a burn ban has been issued, outdoor burning and the use of wood stoves and fireplaces are prohibited. Check DEQ's Daily Air Quality Reports and Forecasts webpage at [www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts) to find out about burn restrictions.

## Alternatives to burning

Burning can waste valuable resources. It may be possible to avoid open burning by better planning, reuse, or recycling.

- Recycle paper products whenever possible.
- Compost yard debris and kitchen scraps.
- Reuse old lumber whenever possible.
- Buy or rent a chipper and use chips for mulch and compost.
- Work with neighbors to organize a neighborhood cleanup day.
- Dispose of waste at your local landfill rather than burn it.
- Take hazardous materials, including oil-based paints, solvents, garden chemicals, and car fluids to a hazardous waste collection site. Burning these materials is illegal and extremely dangerous.

## Proper burning basics

If no alternative to burning is available:

- **Get the proper permit if required.** DEQ does not issue residential burn permits. Contact your local government or fire protection service.
- **Burn during the middle of the day** when ventilation is generally good and smoke dissipates more easily.
- **Burn when fuels are dry and well aerated** so the fire is hot, yet manageable. Wet or dirt-covered materials will smolder and create more smoke.
- **Burn in open areas** away from overhead branches and wires.
- **Scrape away burnable materials** on the ground several feet around the piles. The result should be bare soil.
- **Never leave fires unattended**, and have fire suppression equipment and water available. You can be held responsible for any damage caused by a fire that gets out of control.
- **Burn at least 50 feet away** from any structure.
- **Test burn a small area** prior to burning.

## Protect your health

To protect against smoke impacts while burning:

- **Pay attention to local air quality reports** and stay alert to news coverage or health warnings related to smoke.
- **Minimize burning time** to minimize smoke exposure.
- **Be aware of signs of overexposure** to smoke such as fatigue and illness.
- **Delay burning for another day** if it looks smoky outside.

## Other types of burning

The state's air pollution control rules also regulate the following types of open burning:

- **Recreational and warming fires.** Fires for preparation of food, campfires, and barbecues are allowable, as are small fires for hand warming.
- **Weed control fires.** Fires for weed abatement along such areas as fence lines, ditch banks, and canal banks are allowable.
- **Training fires.** Fires to train firefighters are allowed. Contact your local DEQ regional office prior to burning.
- **Prescribed burning.** Open burning of forest and rangeland to accomplish land management objectives is allowed. To find out more, visit [www.deq.idaho.gov/wildland-fires](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/wildland-fires).
- **Crop residue burning.** Growers may burn crop residue when approved by DEQ. Training, permits, and fees are required. Learn more at [www.deq.idaho.gov/crop-residue-burning](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/crop-residue-burning).

### Questions?

Contact the  
DEQ Regional Office  
nearest you (see reverse).

### What is open burning?

Open burning is any burning outdoors that does not pass through a stack, duct, or chimney. This includes outdoor residential, crop residue, and prescribed burning. Open burning also applies to material that is burned in burn barrels, air curtain destructors, or other such devices.

Since many open-burning practitioners are focused on fire safety, they may not realize additional rules apply to protect public health. Regulation of open burning is needed to minimize the impact of smoke on public health. Open burning in Idaho is regulated by state law and rules, tribal code, and local ordinances.

**Open burning is restricted by air quality rules and permit requirements year-round.**

Sections 600–623 of the “Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho” describe the state’s regulatory authority over open burning under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The state rules apply to all lands other than the five Indian reservations.

Open burning is limited to dry vegetative material and should occur only on days when good ventilation will provide excellent smoke dispersion.

### For more information

#### Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

**State Office**  
1410 N. Hilton  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 373-0502

#### Regional Offices

**Boise**  
1445 N. Orchard  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 373-0550  
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650 Addison Ave. W,  
Suite 110  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208) 736-2190  
toll-free: (800) 270-1663

#### DEQ Air Quality Advisory Hotlines

Kootenai County: (800) 633-6247  
Lewiston Region: (855) 401-4636  
Pocatello/Chubbuck: (208) 236-6173  
Greater Sandpoint: (800) 633-6247  
Silver Valley: (800) 633-6247  
Treasure Valley: (208) 373-0313

#### Web Resources

**Daily Air Quality Reports and Forecasts:** [www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts)

**Real-Time Air Monitoring:**  
<http://airquality.deq.idaho.gov/>



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## Know Before You Burn!



### Open Burning Do's and Don'ts



Idaho Department of  
Environmental Quality  
[www.deq.idaho.gov](http://www.deq.idaho.gov)



### What cannot be burned?

Burning of most processed or manufactured materials is prohibited (exemptions may apply), including the following:

- Garbage
- Dead animals or animal waste
- Motor vehicles or parts
- Tires or other rubber materials
- Plastics
- Asphalt, tar and petroleum materials, and paints
- Trade waste materials (dimension lumber, hay not in field, sawdust, etc.)
- Insulated wire
- Pathogenic (disease-causing) waste
- Hazardous waste

Local ordinances may further restrict or prohibit open burning. In addition, burners may be required to obtain permits in some jurisdictions.

### Burn bans

DEQ may issue burn bans as a result of weather and air quality conditions. When a burn ban has been issued, outdoor open burning is prohibited and local ordinances may limit the use of wood stoves and fireplaces.

The following resources will help you find out if a burn ban has been issued:

- News on your local radio or TV station
- DEQ's Daily Air Quality Reports and Forecasts webpage at [www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts)
- DEQ's Air Quality Advisory Hotline for your area (see numbers on back panel)

### What can be burned?

Unless a burn ban is in effect and/or other restrictions apply, the following types of burning may be conducted:

- **Residential yard waste burning.** Tree leaves, yard trimmings, and gardening waste may be burned if allowed by local ordinance or rule and conducted on the property where the waste was generated.
- **Recreational and warming fires.** Fires for preparation of food, campfires, and barbecues are allowable, as are small fires for hand warming.
- **Weed control fires.** Fires for weed abatement and blown vegetation debris (e.g., tumbleweeds and pine needles) only along fence lines, ditch banks, and canal banks are allowable.
- **Training fires.** Fires to train firefighters are allowed. Contact your local DEQ regional office prior to burning.
- **Prescribed burning.** Open burning of forest and rangeland to accomplish land management objectives is allowed.
- **Crop residue burning.** Growers may burn crop residue when approved by DEQ. Training, permits, and fees are required.



### Avoid burning whenever possible!

Burning can waste valuable resources. It may be possible to avoid open burning by better planning, reuse, or recycling.

- Recycle paper products whenever possible.
- Compost yard debris and kitchen scraps.
- Buy or rent a chipper and use chips for mulch and compost.
- Take hazardous materials, including oil-based paints, solvents, garden chemicals, and car fluids, to a hazardous waste collection site. Burning these materials is illegal and extremely dangerous.
- Donate materials.

### If you must burn

If no alternative to burning is available, DEQ advises potential burners to check with local fire protection districts and the Idaho Department of Lands to find out if a permit is required and to either call DEQ's Air Quality Advisory Hotline (see numbers on back panel) or log onto the agency's website at [www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts) to check whether burning has been regulated.

The following guidelines will help minimize smoke impacts from burning:

- **Burn only dry material.** Green limbs and other vegetative garden waste smolder and produce excessive smoke.
- **Keep burn pile small and manageable.** Large piles develop lots of ash, robbing the pile of oxygen and causing smoky conditions.
- **Burn during the midday hours when solar heating and ventilation are at their maximum.** To prevent smoke from lingering near the ground, never start a burn in the evening or early morning hours. Complete burning before dusk.