



It is illegal to burn garbage, dead animals, asphalt, petroleum products, plastics, paper, cardboard, treated wood, construction and demolition debris, metal, and other substances that normally release toxic emissions, dense smoke, or obnoxious odors when burned.

Reporting outdoor burning violations

To report burning violations or nuisance fires, call 911. The Dispatch Center will log your complaint and refer it to the appropriate fire agency for response. The Fire District or department will visit the site to determine if a violation of state law has occurred. If it is determined that a violation of state law has occurred, they will take appropriate corrective actions. This may include putting the fire out and referring the violation to Olympic Region Clear Air Agency for issuance of a fine up to nearly \$15,000.

County Wide Burn Ban
 Every year July 1 until October 1, a County wide burn ban is enacted. These dates may change due to weather conditions. Recreational fires meeting the legal requirements are still allowed during this time, unless the State enacts a state wide ban.

The information contained herein is provided for the residents of Clallam County Fire Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 and the City of Port Angeles.

Regulations and permit processes for burning in Clallam County

Call your local fire department or the Department of Natural Resources to obtain information on burning permits, burning regulations and requirements, or burning restrictions in your area.

CCFD #1 360-374-5561
 Forks

CCFD #2 360-417-4790
 Deer Park West to Lake Crescent

CCFD #3 360-683-4242
 Jefferson County Line West to Deer Park Road

CCFD #4 360-928-3132
 Joyce Area

CCFD #5 360-963-2371
 Clallam Bay/Sekiu

CCFD #6 360-374-2266
 Quillayute Prairie

PAFD 360-417-4655
 Port Angeles Area

DNR 1-800-527-3305 ext 114
 Forestry related activities

Olympic Region Clean Air Agency
 1-800-422-5623



Serving our Communities

Open Burning Regulations in Clallam County



Why is the State regulating outdoor burning on my property?

When our state legislators enacted the Washington Clean Air Act in 1991, they made a fundamental choice: Your neighbors' right to breathe clean air is more important than allowing you to have free disposal of vegetation by burning it.

In Clallam County there are a large number of homes with occupants who have chronic respiratory disease. These people are at high risk for suffering adverse health effects, including premature death, when their neighbors burn and they have to breathe the smoke from that burning. Microscopic particles can lodge deep in the lungs, damaging delicate air sacs, aggravating respiratory and cardiovascular illness, and decreasing lung function.

Can I burn garbage?

No! Burning garbage in Washington has been illegal since 1973. **Use of burn barrels is also illegal.** State law prohibits burning anything except natural vegetation.



1. People have the right to enjoy the use of their property without the nuisance of smoke or ash fall-out from a neighbor's fire.
2. Public compliance with burn regulations decreases the fire districts' responses to nuisance smoke and fire complaints.
3. Outdoor fires can escape and cause residential home and property damage.
4. The fire district/department permit process educates our citizens on safe, clean and considerate burning.



Is there an alternative to outdoor burning?

Yes! Composting, chipping, and recycling are viable alternatives to outdoor burning that create resources, instead of air pollution and a solid waste problem.



Where is burning not allowed?

State law prohibits burning of any kind — **except for recreational fires** — within the city limits of Forks, Port Angeles, Sequim and within the Urban Growth Areas of Carlsborg, Clallam Bay/Seki, Forks, Joyce, Port Angeles and Sequim.

What about campfires, cooking or ceremonial fires?

Recreational fires are permitted in campgrounds and on private property for cooking, pleasure and ceremonial purposes. Only seasoned firewood or charcoal should be used. **Fires for debris disposal are not considered to be recreational fires.** Recreational fires should not be any larger than 3 feet by 3 feet by 2 feet high.

