Residential Burning Permit



Expires: Beginning of Fire Season 2026

Before Burning, Call (541)776-7007 to Verify It Is A Burn Day!

BURNING REGULATIONS

Fire extinguishing equipment (water, shovel, or rake) must be readily available. Applicant must be in attendance of all burning until fire is completely out and have immediate access to a phone. (Fires must be extinguished before dark).

Burning is regulated by air quality and fire season declaration. Ventilation Index must be above 400 and wind is less than 10mph. Burning must be discontinued if it is determined that smoke emissions are offensive to occupants of surrounding property or if burning creates a hazardous condition due to wind, flying embers, etc.

BURN BARRELS

Burn barrel must be in good condition (free of rust holes or other signs of deterioration). Burn barrel must have a heavy mesh top and draft screen with no larger than ¼ inch holes. This must be in place during use. Burn barrel must be at least 15 ft. from any building, fence or other combustible material.

OPEN PILE BURNING

Burn piles must be limited to a size of 6 ft. in diameter and 3 ft. in height. Burn piles must be 50 ft. from any building, combustible fence, or other combustible materials. (Not less than 25 feet when pile size is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height.)

RECREATIONAL FIRE

Is an outdoor fire in a protected pit, barbeque pit, fabricated fire pit or chiminea. Allowed burning materials Include charcoal and firewood. Dimensions of the fire are limited to maximum of three feet (3') in diameter and two feet (2') in height and MUST be 15' from structures. Recreational fires MUST be attended by a responsible adult at all times while burning.

Individuals needing to burn slash piles should contact: Oregon Dept. of Forestry (541)474-3152 or (541)664-3328

- Materials that can be burned: Yard trimmings, Leaves, and Brush.
- * Materials not allowed: Household garbage, commercial, industrial, construction, or land clearing waste, plastic, wire insulation, automobile parts, asphalt, petroleum products or treated materials, rubber, asbestos, animal remains, animal or vegetable matter resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking or service of food, any material which emits dense smokeσnoxious odors.

THIS COMPLETED PERMIT MUST BE PRESENTED UPON REQUEST

Liability: This permit does not relieve the holder from criminal or civil liability for damage arising from burning under his/her control. Violations of the burning requirements may result in the issuance of a citation to appear in district court. (Either ORS 477.515 or ORS 478.960 may apply)

Open Burn Alternatives

Here are some air friendly alternatives to open burning.....

<u>Biomass One</u> - Located on Avenue G in White City, Biomass has a variety of wood waste recycling programs from homepick-up to a drop-off center. Visit their website or call 826-9422 for more information.

Rogue Disposal - Call 541-779-4161 for more information about their yard debris, leaf recycling and composting programs.

<u>Jackson County Leaf Exchange Program</u> – Connects people who are trying to get rid of leaves with people who wantleaves. Call 541-774-8207 to be put on the recipient/donor list or to be connected with someone to exchange leaves.

<u>Hilton Fuel</u> – Located in Central Point, Hilton fuel will accept clean wood only. Call 541-664-3374 for more information

What is the ventilation index (VI)?

The VI is the National Weather Service's indicator of the relative degree for air circulation for a specified area and time period. Basically it is a measurement of the air's ability to "clean" itself. The afternoon VI is predicted by analyzing information acquired from a weather balloon sent up early each morning from the National Weather Service in Medford (located by theairport). VI of 0-199 = poor ventilation; 200-400 = fair; 401-599 = good; and 600+ = very good!

Why does Jackson County have poor ventilation during the winter?

The Rogue Valley has some of the worst ventilation in the country. One of the reasons for this is winter temperature inversions. Because of our unique weather and topography, sometimes cold air becomes trapped in the valley beneath warmer air. The cooler air, because of its greater density, settles close to the ground, and the warmer air forms a blanket above it in a temperature inversion. Because the winter days are so short, often the sun can't warm the cold lower air enough for it to rise out of the valley. Pollutants such as wood smoke and automobile exhaust are trapped in this cooler lower air.

For more information visit: www.jacksoncounty.org

