

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
Fire Marshal's Office
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900
360-778-5901 Fax



J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director/Fire Marshal

Wain Harrison
Deputy Fire Marshal

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Jack Louws, County Executive
Fire & Law Enforcement Dispatch
County & City Officials
Whatcom County Fire Chiefs

FROM: Mitch Nolze, Fire Inspector
THROUGH: Wain Harrison, Deputy Fire Marshal

DATE: July 25, 2016

SUBJECT: Burn Ban Will Be In Effect

All open burning under the jurisdiction of unincorporated Whatcom County is hereby suspended, starting at **08:00AM** the **26th** day of **July**, by order of Whatcom County Deputy Fire Marshal, Wain Harrison. The suspension is due to dry weather conditions ahead and low fuel moisture levels. The ban is in effect until further notice.

For current burn ban information please call **778-5903**.
Also, visit the Fire Marshal's website at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/381/Fire-Marshal>

If the property falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources, please call 1-800-323-BURN for burn ban information.

Recreational and camp fires no larger than three (3) feet in diameter in an approved enclosure will still be allowed:

RECREATIONAL FIRE/CAMPFIRE

- **UP TO 3' X 3' OF SEASONED FIREWOOD OR CHARCOAL ONLY**
- **MUST HAVE ENCLOSURE 16" HIGH, MADE OF STEEL OR CEMENT BLOCKS.**
 - ****ALTERNATE FOR BEACH FIRES (WHERE ALLOWED) IS 8" DEEP PIT WITH 4" HIGH STONE WALL AROUND****
- **25 FT. FROM STRUCTURES, TIMBER, COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL**
- **GARDEN HOSE OR (2) 5-GALLON BUCKETS OF WATER AT FIRE**
- **HAND TOOLS REQUIRED ON-SITE**
- **ALLOWED AFTER DARK WHEN ATTENDED**
- **FIRES MUST BE ATTENDED UNTIL OUT COLD AND DOUSED WITH WATER**
- **NO BURNING WHEN WINDS EXCEED 7 MPH.**

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
Fire Marshal's Office
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900
360-778-5901 Fax



J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director/Fire Marshal

Wain Harrison
Deputy Fire Marshal

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE NEWS RELEASE

Dry conditions and summer weather will call for burn restrictions.

Whatcom County – Due to the warm weather conditions ahead and low fuel moisture levels, the Whatcom County Fire Marshal's Office will be enacting restrictions on all open burning in unincorporated Whatcom County starting at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, July 26th, 2016.

All land clearing and yard debris burning must be discontinued at that time.

Recreational fires will still be allowed in designated campgrounds and on improved properties with the landowner's permission. Recreational fires are fires that are less than 3 feet in diameter, burning only seasoned firewood or charcoal, and are built in an approved fire enclosure. To find out the requirements for an approved enclosure please call the **burn ban information line at (360) 778-5903**.

Violations of these burn restrictions can result in a minimum \$250.00 fine. In addition if you have an illegal fire that escapes or needs to be extinguished by the fire department, you may be held financially responsible for fire suppression costs, as well as criminally responsible.

If you have any questions on open burning in unincorporated Whatcom County, please contact the Whatcom County Fire Marshal's Office at 360-778-5900 or visit our website at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/381/Fire-Marshal>.

Have a safe and fun rest of the summer.

Date: July 25, 2016
For Immediate Release
Contact: Mitch Nolze, Fire Inspector