

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
Fire Marshal's Office
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J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director/Fire Marshal

Wain Harrison
Deputy Fire Marshal

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Jack Louws, County Executive
Fire & Police Dispatch
County & City Officials
Fire Chiefs

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

DATE: August 30, 2016

SUBJECT: Outdoor Burning Restrictions Reduced

Outdoor burning restrictions will be reduced starting at 12:00 PM the 2nd day of September, by order of Whatcom County Deputy Fire Marshal Wain Harrison. This modification of the burning restrictions will allow for recreational fires again. **All other outdoor burning is still banned until further notice, including yard debris and land clearing fires.**

For current outdoor burning information please call **778-5903** or visit our website (<http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/381/Fire-Marshall>). The requirements for a recreational fire and updated outdoor burning information are available on that line.

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

Please remember as outdoor burning restrictions are reduced:

- Recreational fire requirements:
 - Up to 3 feet by 3 feet of seasoned firewood or charcoal only
 - Must have enclosure 16 inches high, made of steel or masonry / rockery
 - 25 feet from structures, timber, and combustible material
 - 15 feet overhead clearance required
 - Garden hose or (2) 5-gallon buckets of water at fire
 - Hand tools required onsite
 - Allowed after dark if attended until fire is out cold
 - No burning when winds exceed 7 MPH
- Violations of these burn restrictions can result in a minimum \$250.00 fine. Repeat violators should be reported to the Fire Marshal's Office for enforcement.
- All other types of outdoor burning are still banned until further notice.