

Jefferson County WA - Fire Risk – Burn Restriction Level – Allowed – Restricted Guidelines

FIRE RISK	LEVEL	ALLOWED	RESTRICTIONS
None	0	OPEN BURN Season, All Permitted Burns / Yard Debris, Campfires Allowed	None
LOW (Green)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Clearing / Yard Debris Wood Fires (Recreational), including campfires on beaches and undeveloped lands Wood or Solid Fueled Cooking Fire – To Include: Charcoal Barbeque Grills, Smokers Gas or Propane Fueled Appliances Tiki Torches Liquid Fuel Candles or Lanterns Discharge of Fireworks (See current County Ordinance for direction on use) Not allowed on State Lands. <p>NOTE: ANY of the above activities could be prohibited by the County Fire Chiefs / Fire Marshal if it is determined that weather and fuels condition warrant it; or there is an increase in incident response due to activities associated with burning and fire use.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Land Clearing / Yard Debris Fires Burn Restriction July 1 – Sept 30</p> <p>FIRE RESTRICTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UGA Land Clearing / Yard Debris Other restrictions will be implemented as weather and fuels conditions warrant. Or the increase in incident response due to activities associated with burning and fire use.
MODERATE (Blue)	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wood Fires (Recreational, both developed and forested areas) Wood or Solid Fueled Cooking Fires Gas or Propane Fueled Appliances Liquid Fuel Candles or Lanterns <p>See NOTE in LOW section above</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Land Clearing / Yard Debris Fires Burn Ban July 1 – Sept 30</p> <p>FIRE RESTRICTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other restrictions will be implemented as weather and fuels conditions warrant. UGA Land Clearing / Yard Debris Discharge of Fireworks (See current County Ordinance for direction on use.) Restricted on all State lands
HIGH (Yellow)	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas or Propane Fueled Appliances Wood or Solid Fueled Cooking Fire (Enclosed Flame Only) Campfires in developed campgrounds, County and Private.(Maybe farther restricted as fire conditions warrant, per DNR and County Fire Chiefs.) Campfires allowed on “developed Properties” and that meet IFC standards. <p>See NOTE in LOW section above</p>	<p>FIRE RESTRICTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Clearing / Yard Debris Fires Wood Fires -Recreational, in undeveloped lands Wood, Charcoal Cooking Fires (BBQ) Liquid Fuel Candles or Lanterns Discharge of Fireworks of Any Type Discharge of Firearms
VERY HIGH (Orange)	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas or Propane Fueled Appliances ONLY 	<p>FIRE RESTRICTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Outdoor Burning or Discharge.
EXTREME (Red)	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLOSED 	<p>CLOSED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Outdoor Fire, Burning, or Discharge of Any kind or Type Discharge of Firearms (Open Lands) When public lands are closed to use by the public.

DEFINITIONS:

OTHER ACTIVITIES - May be prohibited due to air quality or early fire season conditions - The possibility of early season restriction being implemented, due to air quality concerns, (see Air Pollution Episode) or a “spring fire season”; weather and fuels conditions allow for increased fire spread.

APPROVED FIRE PIT – A device made of metal, concrete or any other noncombustible material and shall not be more than thirty-six inches in diameter and twenty-four inches high. See Attachment 1

AGRICULTURAL BURNING - means outdoor burning regulated under chapter **173-430** WAC, including, but not limited to, any incidental agricultural burning or agricultural burning for pest or disease control. Permitted needed from ORCAA, (Olympic Clean Air Agency).

AIR POLLUTION EPISODE - means a period when a forecast, alert, warning, or emergency air pollution stage is declared, as stated in chapter 173-435 WAC. (Established by Department of Ecology)

BONFIRE - (IFC Chapter 2 Definitions Bonfire). An outdoor fire utilized for ceremonial purposes.

CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION DEBRIS - means all material resulting from the construction, renovation, or demolition of buildings, roads, and other synthetic structures.

CHARCOAL -Is a solid fuel used for heating and cooking that is created through the process of carbonization, which is a process where complex carbon substances—such as wood or other biomass—are broken down through a slow heating process into carbon and other chemical compounds.

EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL - The term “*explosive*” material means *explosives*, blasting agents and detonators.

FIRE - is the combustion or burning, in which substances combine chemically with oxygen from the air and typically give out bright light, heat, and smoke.

FIREWORKS. Any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, *deflagration* or *detonation* that meets the definition of 1.3G fireworks or 1.4G fireworks. (See Jefferson County Fire Works Ordinance #XXXX)

FIREFIGHTING INSTRUCTION FIRES - means fires for instruction in methods of firefighting, including, but not limited to, training to fight structural fires, aircraft crash rescue fires, and forest fires.

FIREARMS -Any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; The frame or receiver of any such weapon; Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or. Any destructive device.

FIREWOOD - Means bare untreated, seasoned (Very dry) wood used as fuel in a solid fuel burning device, Indian ceremonial fire, or recreational fire.

FIRE WORKS -A device containing gunpowder and other combustible chemicals that causes a spectacular explosion when ignited, used typically for display or in celebrations. (See Jefferson County Fire Works Ordinance #XXXX)

GAS or PROPANE FUELED APPLIANCES - Natural gas and propane are both gas fuels widely used in cooking and heating. In most of the world, natural gas is distributed through a centralized pipeline network (local, national, and

even international), while propane is always sold in tanks of various sizes. Both propane and natural gas are highly efficient cooking fuels, and stoves can be readily adjusted to use either one.

HAULED MATERIAL - No outdoor fire may contain material (other than firewood) that has been hauled from an area where outdoor burning of the material is prohibited under WAC [173-425-040](#). Any outdoor burning of material hauled from areas where outdoor burning of the material is allowed requires an appropriate permit under WAC [173-425-060](#)(2). and any use of property for this purpose on an on-going basis, must be limited to the types of burning listed in WAC [173-351-200](#) (5)(b) (criteria for municipal solid waste landfills) and approved in accordance with other laws, including chapter [173-304](#) WAC (Minimum functional standards for solid waste handling) and chapter [173-400](#) WAC (General regulations for air pollution sources). (RCW [70.94.745](#)(6))
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IMPAIRED AIR QUALITY - means a first or second stage impaired air quality condition declared by ecology or a local air authority in accordance with WAC [173-433-140](#).

LAND CLEARING BURNING - means outdoor burning of trees, stumps, shrubbery, or other natural vegetation from land clearing projects (i.e., projects that clear the land surface so it can be developed, used for a different purpose, or left unused). (RCW [70.94.750](#)(2))

LIQUID FUEL CANDLES or LANTERNS -Variations can include a round-shaped enclosure or windows The light source can be a candle, liquid oil with a wick, gas with a mantle.

NATURAL VEGETATION - means unprocessed plant material from herbs, shrubbery, and trees, including grass, weeds, leaves, clippings, pruning's, brush, branches, roots, stumps, and trunk wood.

NUISANCE - means, an emission of smoke or any other air contaminant that unreasonably interferes with the use and enjoyment of the property upon which it is deposited. (RCW [70.94.030](#)(2))

OTHER OUTDOOR BURNING - means any type of outdoor burning not specified in WAC [173-425-020](#) (1) or (2)(a) through (i), including, but not limited to, any outdoor burning necessary to protect public health and safety. (RCW [70.94.650](#)(7) and [70.94.765](#))

OUTDOOR BURNING - means the combustion of material of any type in an open fire or in an outdoor container without providing for the control of combustion or the control of emissions from the combustion. For the purposes of this rule, "outdoor burning" means all types of outdoor burning except agricultural burning and silvicultural burning. (RCW [70.94.743](#)(2))

OPEN BURNING - (*IFC Section 105 Permits, 105.6.32 Open Burning*) An operational permit is required for the kindling
or maintaining of an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road, or other public or private ground. Instructions and stipulations of the permit shall be adhered to. Exception: Recreational Fires.

PERMITTING AGENCY - means the agency responsible for issuing permits (including adopting a general permit) for, and/or enforcing all requirements of this chapter that apply to, a particular type of burning in a given area (unless another agency agrees to be responsible for certain enforcement activities in accordance with WAC [173-425-060](#) (1)(a) and (6)).

POLLUTANTS EMITTED BY OUTDOOR BURNING - means carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, lead, and various volatile organic compounds and toxic substances.

PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACES - (*IFC Definitions Portable Outdoor Fireplaces*). A portable, outdoor, solid fuel burning

fireplace that may be constructed of steel, concrete, clay, or other noncombustible material. A portable outdoor fireplace may be open in design, or may be equipped with a small hearth opening and a short chimney or chimney opening in the top. Outdoor or portable fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufactures instructions and in accordance with SOG 4007A Land Clearing and Burning Guidelines.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE - means a method for disposing of organic refuse (such as natural vegetation) that is available, economical, and less harmful to the environment than burning.

RECREATIONAL FIRE - means cooking fires, campfires, and bonfires using charcoal or firewood that occur in designated areas or on private property for cooking, pleasure, or ceremonial purposes. Fires used for debris disposal purposes are not considered recreational fires.

RECREATIONAL FIRE - (*IFC Chapter 2 Definitions Recreational Fire*). An outdoor fire, burning materials other than rubbish, where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fire place, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purpose. Examples: cooking fires, campfires, beach fires and bonfires. Recreational fires do not require a permit.

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RESIDENTIAL BURNING - means the outdoor burning of leaves, clippings, pruning's and other yard and gardening refuse originating on lands immediately adjacent and in close proximity to a human dwelling and burned on such lands by the property owner or his or her designee. (RCW 70.94.750(1)) Only one residential burning pile which has a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height, is allowed at any one time and does not require a permit.

RUBBISH (*IFC Definitions Rubbish – Trash*). Combustible and noncombustible waste material, including residue from burning of coal, wood, or other combustible material, paper, rags, cartons, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass crockery, dust and discarded refrigerators, and heating, cooking or incinerator type appliances.

SILVICULTURAL BURNING - means outdoor burning relating to the following activities for the site preparation of an area where trees were harvested. The protection of life or property and/or the public health, safety, and welfare:

- a. Abating a forest fire hazard.
- b. Prevention of a forest fire hazard.
- c. Instruction of public officials in methods of forest firefighting.
- d. Any silvicultural operation to improve the forest lands of the state; and
- e. Silvicultural burning used to improve or maintain fire dependent ecosystems for rare plants or animals within state, federal, and private natural area preserves, natural resource conservation areas, parks, and other wildlife areas. (RCW 70.94.660(1))

SMOKER - A device in which food is exposed to smoke and low temperature heat for the purpose of preserving and enhancing the food with a variety of distinctive smoky flavors. A Smoker requires a type of low temperature heat source and an oven, which becomes the *smokehouse* or smoking chamber. The heat source, may be wood, charcoal, gas, electric, or infrared

SOLID FUEL - Refers to **various forms of solid material that can be burned and used to cook and heat food**. Examples of solid fuels include wood, charcoal, coal, wood pellets. While this cooking method provides a unique charred and smoky flavoring to food, it also presents an elevated element of risk

TIKI TORCH - a torch made of bamboo with a container of flammable liquid and a wick on top, used especially for lighting outdoor areas.

TURKEY FRYER - Is an apparatus for deep-frying a turkey in vegetable based oil, heated by burner usually a standard propane tank.

UNLAWFUL OUTDOOR BURNING - It is unlawful for any person to cause or allow outdoor burning that causes an emission of smoke or any other air contaminant that is detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of any person, that causes damage to property or business, or that causes a nuisance. (RCW **70.94.040**, **70.94.650(1)**, and **70.94.780**)

a. Any person affected by outdoor burning may file a complaint with the permitting agency or other designated enforcing agency.

b. Any agency responding to an outdoor burning complaint should attempt to determine if the burning on any particular property is unlawful. This may include, but is not limited to, considering whether the burning has caused an emission of smoke or any other air contaminant in sufficient quantity to be unlawful.

c. Any person responsible for such unlawful outdoor burning must immediately extinguish the fire.

URBAN GOWTH AREA - means land, generally including and associated with an incorporated city, designated by a county for urban growth under RCW **36.70A.030**.

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 105.5 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 on 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. Where *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 be not 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 that 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 that 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. Not fewer than 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.