

Notes for Information of Permittee

Under the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977 and the Forest and Rural Fires Regulations 1979, there are compulsory conditions to the undermentioned effect. For their full legal form, please see the Acts and Regulations.

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| "Open air" | 1. "Open air" means not in a fireplace, incinerator, barbecue, or other place, duly approved in each case. |
| Wind, etc. | 2. DO NOT light fires in wind stronger than 15km/h – Beaufort Wind Scale (3) – gentle breeze, leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flags OR if North West winds are forecast. |
| Camping, etc. | 3. If camping or cooking, or needing comfort or warmth, keep fire at least 3m clear of any tree, log, stump, or dry vegetation. Remove all combustible material within 3m of the fire site. |
| Patrol | 4. Patrol the fire until completely out or cannot spread. |
| Notice | 5. Before lighting a controlled burn, notify neighbours as directed. |
| Extreme hazard | 6. PERMITS ARE SUSPENDED by fire hazard emergency warnings or orders prohibiting all open air fires. Check by radio, or ring the Fire Authority. If fire is essential for emergency (e.g., stock disease) at such times, seek a "Special permit". |
| Showing permit | 7. This written permit must be produced on demand by a member of Police or a Fire Officer. |
| Damage | 8. A permit is not a legal defence against claims for damage caused by the fire. |
| Parks, etc. | 9. Except where officially signposted otherwise, permits are needed at all times for open fires in National or Maritime Parks, in specially protected sites, and in (including their fire safety margins of usually 1.5 kilometres) other State areas or forest areas. |
| Escape | 10. If the fire gets out of hand, Dial 111 and try to extinguish if safe to do so. |
| Offences | 11. It is an offence to light an open air fire without the appropriate permit, or to break permit conditions, or to let a fire spread to and injure a State area, forest area, or specially protected property, or to leave it unprotected against such spread. |
| Joint Permits | 12. Obtain further permits from soil conservation, Crown, or other statutory fire authorities whose approval is required, if this is not a joint permit signed on their behalf. |
| Landholder | 13. Separate consent by the landholder may be needed. |
| Resource Consent | 14. This Fire Permit DOES NOT constitute a Resource Consent to burn. You need to check with your local Council if a Resource Consent is required. |
| Revocation | THIS PERMIT IS REVOCABLE UPON NOTICE AT ANY TIME WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING. |



Want to undertake a burn – check whether or not you need a permit first

Ph (03) 520 7400 Fax (03) 520 7496

Email firepermit@marlborough.govt.nz

Remember – Don't light a fire you can't control

What NOT to Burn

BURNING THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS IS UNAUTHORISED:

- Tyres • PVC plastics • Aerosol cans
- Foam products • Treated wood
- Oil-based products (eg: some paints, waste oil, vehicle fuels etc.)
- Agri chemical wastes (or their containers)
- Hazardous substances (or their containers)
- Insulated electrical cables
- Motor Vehicle materials / metals
- Green and / or wet vegetation
- Grass clippings • Food scraps

Penalties!

- You are liable for fires lit by your contractor, staff or the person leasing your land.
- If your employer directs you to light an unauthorised fire you are still liable.

PENALTIES INCLUDE:

- Infringement notice requiring the payment of a \$300 fine.
- Prosecution, resulting in a fine of up to \$200 000 or up to two years in prison, plus a criminal record.

RURAL BURNING GUIDE



What MAY be Burnt

BURNING THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS IS AUTHORISED:

- Untreated Wood • Magazines
- Dry Vegetation • Newspaper
- Cardboard

PROVIDED THAT:

- The wastes to be burnt are generated on the property where the fire is occurring
- Smoke is minimised and does not create a nuisance
- You have a fire permit or it is an open fire season

PLEASE CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS FOR GETTING RID OF WASTE ... EG: RECYCLING, COMPOSTING ETC.

Safety!

ALWAYS:

- Check for fire restrictions or fire bans
- Assess safety
- Have a plan for preventing and extinguishing any spreading of the fire.

About Smoke

SMOKE RELEASES DIOXINS & OTHER TOXINS INTO THE AIR

- Dioxins cause serious health problems like cancer and birth defects. Burning green vegetation releases toxic gases such as Carbon Monoxide, Hydrogen Chloride and Hydrogen Cyanide into the atmosphere.

SMOKE RELEASES SMALL PARTICLES (PM₁₀) INTO THE AIR

- Small particles aggravate respiratory illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis
- Children are particularly at risk to the damaging effects of PM₁₀ particles
- Smokey air is unpleasant to breathe
- Traffic hazard is smoke is blown across the road
- Nuisance effects if smoke crosses the property boundary



HOW to Burn

IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT TO HAVE A FIRE IN THE URBAN AREA WITHOUT CREATING SMOKE NUISANCE.

If you must burn, please consider the following:

- Always Burn authorised, dry materials.
- Stack the burn pile loosely to allow air flow.
- Keep the fire stoked and burning hot.
- With large volumes of waste, have a small pile to which waste is continually added rather than one large pile.
- Do not mix soil with the burn pile.
- Consider wind direction with respect to locations of neighbouring houses, roads etc.
- Avoid burning when there is an inversion layer (eg: cold, still mornings and nights) as this will prevent smoke dispersing.

Persons that are creating a smoke nuisance or burning unauthorised materials may be required to extinguish the fire.

Figure 1 MKRFA Burning Guide