



# Burning Information Bulletin

The following information from the Fire Prevention Bylaw is provided to assist you with the burning regulations in the District of North Saanich.

## **BURNING PERMITS**

The Fire Department will make a site inspection prior to a permit being issued, insuring a visible lot or house number is displayed and the area meets the burning requirements.

- A bi-annual permit of \$25.00 is required for all open 3'x3'x3' (1m x 1m x 1m) fires, incinerators, and outdoor fire appliances.
- A permit fee of \$ 35.00 will be charged for each pile larger that 3'x3'x3' and smaller than 10'x10'x10' with a \$ 200.00 minimum per pile for a larger than 10'x10'x10' and or machine stacked pile.

## **INCINERATORS:**

- An incinerator shall be maintained in a condition that provides for the proper combustion of any material being burnt. Incinerators need to be emptied on a regular basis ensuring that good combustion of materials can take place preventing nuisance smoke.
- Incinerators, whether metal, stone or brick, shall have a screen or grill with mesh less than 9.5 mm (3/8") to restrict any sparks or flying debris
- While the incinerator is in use, a competent adult shall supervise any burning and ensure that equipment for fire control is available and combustion smoke is kept to a minimum.
- An incinerator shall be located at least 3m (10 feet) from any dry grass, shrubbery or wooden fences and located 7.6m (25 feet) from any building.

## **PROHIBITED BURNING MATERIALS**

The following materials are **prohibited** from being burned in any solid fuel-burning device, domestic incinerator or in an open outdoor fire.

Asphalt Products	Biomedical Waste	All Leaves	Domestic Waste
Drywall	Flammable Liquids	Fuel & Lubricant Containers	Manure
Paint	All Plastics	Mattresses, Couches	Rubber
Green Grass	Tar Paper	Tires	Treated Lumber

## **OPEN FIRES**

- An open fire 3'x3'x3' (1m x 1m x 1m) shall be located at least 7.6m (25 feet) from any dry grass, shrubbery or wood fences and 7.6m (25 feet) from any buildings.
- All fires on the foreshores (beaches) require an inspection of the site and a permit issued by the Fire Chief. This permit will be valid for a specific date only unless noted on permit.
- The Fire Chief, at his discretion, may issue a burning permit for after hours when special circumstances arise.
- In all instances when a burning permit is issued, a competent adult shall have the fire under constant supervision.
- No permit shall be issued unless a visible lot or house number is displayed.
- All burning permits are subject to restrictions, fines and or cancellation by the Fire Chief at any time.
- All piles larger than 10'x10'x10' must be a minimum 25 ft from a property line and 100 ft from structures.

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## **BURNING TIMES**

- Open air burning shall **only** take place on the **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive Thursday, Friday and Saturday's** during **November** to **May 15<sup>th</sup>** from **Sunrise** to **Sunset**.
- Open air burning of machine stacked piles are permitted weekly as per discretion of the Fire Chief.
- **No** burning shall take place on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Statutory Holidays.
- All burning may be closed at any time from the direction of the Fire Chief.
- All open burning; including incinerators will be closed from May 15<sup>th</sup> and re-opening the first consecutive Thursday, Friday and Saturday in November.
- No burning is allowed in the Dean Park area located west of East Saanich Road, south of Forest Park Drive (both sides, including Texada Terrace) to the southern border of the District.

## **SMOKE**

- No person shall cause, or allow the emission of, smoke from a solid fuel burning device or an open fire, which create large thick amounts of smoke. Violators will be progressively penalized restricting their days of burning and or revoking their permits if warranted by the Fire Chief.
- Apart from first lighting the fire or when the fire is re-stoked, the fire shall burn as hot as possible with good combustion and create the least amount of smoke. All smoke complaints will be thoroughly investigated and all offenders will be penalized.
- All fires should be burnt in the shortest time frame as possible, with consideration of the surrounding residents.
- Wet leaves and grass do not burn, alternate ways such as composting should be considered.

## **ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING**

The Municipal Pit off Littlewood Road, behind the legion on Mills Road, will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. for North Saanich residents only to drop off burnable materials including grass and garden clippings. The fee will be \$10 per pick up load or trailer and \$5 per car load. Driver's licences will be checked to verify residency.

In addition to the municipal pit being available please contact your refuse collection company for pick up of your yard materials.

In the case of large burns the Provincial Atmospheric Venting Index should be consulted and piles should only be burned on good venting days. The Fire Department can supply a three day venting forecast or you can refer to the North Saanich Fire Department web site and click on burning regulations then venting index.

*Fire Department after hours non-emergency duty officer.....250-475-6111*

If you require any further information on the burning regulations in the District of North Saanich, such as burn site areas or incinerator inspections, please do not hesitate to call or visit our website at:

[www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca)

**North Saanich Fire Department**  
**250-656-1931**  
**Monday to Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**