

Western North Carolina Regional  
Air Quality Agency

## OPEN BURNING RULES

### **PROHIBITED BURNING**

Open burning is illegal at all times:

- Where public pickup is provided.
- It is always illegal to burn any materials, other than natural growth vegetation. Materials such as: Household trash; Paper; Cardboard; Plastic; Asphalt; Tires; Construction material; and Treated/Processed wood cannot be burned.
- It is illegal to burn any item on “Ozone Action Days” (days with high ozone levels, codes Purple, Red, or Orange).

Violators are subject to civil penalties up to \$10,000.

### **ALLOWED BURNING**

Where there is **no** public trash pickup:

- Hand-piled vegetation can be burned following the guidelines below. No permit from this Agency is required.
- Machine-piled vegetation can be burned, if permit is obtained from this Agency and an inspection is done.

### **Requirements for Burning**

- Only between 8:00 am and 6:00pm.
- At least 1,000 feet from any occupied building.
- Never on an Ozone Action Day.
- Clean vegetation only -no dirt or stump s.
- Must not cause a nuisance.
- Fires should be attended.

### **TO REPORT ILLEGAL BURNING**

Business Hours 8:00am through 5:00pm, call 255-5655  
All other times, call 255-5631

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