



PLEASE READ THESE  
PERMIT CONDITIONS  
VERY CAREFULLY  
THE COSTS ASSOCIATED  
WITH ILLEGAL BURNING  
VIOLATIONS CAN  
BECOME  
**VERY EXPENSIVE**  
ONLY  
RECREATIONAL  
FIRES ARE  
PERMITTED

WHATCOM COUNTY  
FIRE DISTRICT #17  
4332 SUCIA DRIVE  
FERNDALE, WA. 98248  
360-384-1480  
wcf17@comcast.net



- DID YOU KNOW THAT?**
- SSC (360-398-2025) OFFERS YARD DEBRIS PICK-UP SERVICE FOR A SMALL MONTHLY FEE
  - RDS (360-384-8011) ON SLATER RD. OFFERS A YARD DEBRIS DROP OFF LOCATION FOR A SMALL FEE
  - DUTTON TREE SERVICES (360-303-3057) OFFERS CHIPPING, STUMP GRINDING, PRUNING, AND BRUSH REMOVAL.
  - THE BOY SCOUTS OF WHATCOM COUNTY (360-255-9194) OFFER A FREE CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP SERVICE



# OUTDOOR BURNING

WHATCOM  
COUNTY  
FIRE DISTRICT #17  
RULES  
&  
STANDARDS  
FOR PERMITTED  
RECREATIONAL  
FIRES

**RCW 52.12.101**



## **GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR OUTDOOR BURNING**

- Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 all residential yard debris, beach debris and land clearing fires are no longer permitted by the fire district.
- Only recreational campfires that meet specific conditions are permitted by the fire district
- You must have the legal property owners written permission prior to conducting any recreational campfires on any property.
- Fires are not permitted when winds exceed 10 mph
- Any fire that produces smoke, odor, or ash that the fire department deems offensive to neighboring properties or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous are not permitted and must be extinguished immediately.
- No fires of any kind are permitted during a posted burn ban. Call 384-1480 to check the outdoor burning status before you burn.
- Gas fireplace appliances including those with chimneys are permitted as recreational campfires and must comply with those conditions with the following exception. Setback rules for these applications are only 15 feet.

## **DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR A RECREATIONAL CAMP FIRE ?**

**AFTER YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND,  
AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH THE  
FOLLOWING CONDITIONS THIS  
DOCUMENT WILL SERVE AS YOUR  
WRITTEN PERMIT TO CONDUCT A  
RECREATIONAL CAMP FIRE**

- Recreational campfires 3 feet in diameter or smaller are permitted under the following conditions:
- Recreational campfires shall consist of charcoal or split dry firewood only and are for cooking or pleasure only.
- The fire must be in an enclosure no larger than 3 feet in diameter. The enclosure must be a minimum of 16 inches high (or 8" high & 8" deep) and made of cement, rock, or #10 gauge steel. Firewood in enclosure must be kept lower than the side walls of the enclosure.
- The enclosure must be at least **25 feet** away from all structures, standing timber, vehicles, trailers, power lines, vegetation, or any other combustible materials. **CONTINUED** →

- Tree branches must be cleared to a height of at least 15 feet above the enclosure
- A charged garden hose capable of reaching the fire or 2 five gallon buckets of water must be on site at all times
- One person at least 16 years of age must be present at all times and must have a method to call 911 if needed
- The fire must be attended until dead out
- Lumber, plastic, woods containing creosote, construction materials, brush, leaves, blackberry bushes, grass, weeds, beach grass, seaweed, household garbage, rubber, petroleum products, fireworks, cardboard, and paper products are not permitted to be burned at any time, except for a small amount of paper needed to start your recreational fire.
- The fire department has the authority to extinguish any permitted fire that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation or is in violation of these rules and standards and may charge for response and suppression costs.
- Still have questions? Call the Fire Department at (360) 384-1480 for more information. We want you to be informed and be safe!

**ALL VIOLATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO RCW 52.12.108 WHICH ALLOWS THE FIRE DISTRICT BY LAW TO CHARGE FEES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES AND SUPPRESSION. IN ADDITION, ALL VIOLATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO RCW 52.12.106 WHICH UNDER THE WASHINGTON STATE LAW IS DEEMED A MISDEMEANOR CRIME.**