

Open (Backyard) Burning

The District urges residents to recycle their yard debris instead of burning it. Some regular customers of Allied Waste can recycle their yard waste for no additional charge. Please check with them to see if you are on their yard debris route. If you must burn, however, the following regulations apply:

- In the Rural District, the yard debris burning season extends from March 1 through June 15 and October 1 through December 15.
- Designation of burn days is based upon daily environmental conditions. Between October 1 and June 15, the Oregon Department of Forestry determines whether burning will be recommended. Between June 16 and September 30, the Oregon Department of Agriculture makes that determination.
- The Fire Department considers the burning recommendation, along with an assessment of the level of fire danger and local seasonal designations then determines whether burning will be allowed.
- The burning advisory phone number is 541-766-6971 and the message is updated each morning by 8:15.
- A permit is not required for residential yard debris burning. However, this type of burning is limited to 4-plexes and smaller residences.
- The smoke from the fire must not be dense or have a noxious odor. The resident is required to put a fire out if it creates a public nuisance.
- The fire must be attended constantly until it is completely out.
- A water hose or other extinguishing source must be readily available on site.
- Burning is limited to dry yard trimmings and clippings (no household garbage).
- The use of burn barrels is not recommended as they tend to limit the amount of oxygen available to the fire, creating more smoke than would otherwise be the case.
- Residents wishing to complain about unclean air due to poor burning practices may call one of the DEQ regional offices: (Salem) 800-349-7677 or (Eugene) 800-844-8467.