



## Outdoor Fire Regulations

The Camas-Washougal Fire Department has prepared the following information regarding outdoor fire regulations for your use. Note – all outdoor fires are prohibited during a burn ban (with the exception of Liquefied Petroleum Gas LPG {propane}, natural gas, pellets, or charcoal briquettes as the fuel.)

### DEFINITIONS:

**BAR-B-QUE:** A cooking appliance that may be portable or permanent.

Use conditions:

- Only clean and natural firewood, charcoal, pellets, wood chips, manufactured fire logs, LPG, and/or natural gas are permissible fuels.

**BURN BARREL:** A barrel or other container used to burn rubbish and other debris.

- **ILLEGAL – NOT PERMITTED** (Statewide Ban)

**WEED BURNER:** A gas fired torch used to burn weeds.

- **ILLEGAL – NOT PERMITTED** within the city limits of Camas and Washougal

**OPEN BURNING:** The burning of vegetation from land clearing.

- **ILLEGAL – NOT PERMITTED** within the city limits of Camas and Washougal

**OUTDOOR FIREPLACE:** An outdoor fireplace constructed of masonry or metal materials and considered permanent in nature.

Use conditions:

- Only clean natural firewood, charcoal, manufactured fire logs, LPG, and/or natural gas are permissible fuels.
- Fire shall be attended at all times.

**PORTABLE FIRE DEVICES with OPEN FLAME:** A non-combustible device such as a fire pit or fire bowl or chimnea that contains the fire.

Use conditions:

- Only clean natural firewood, charcoal, manufacture fire logs, LPG, and/or natural gas are permissible fuels.
- Fire Extinguisher with rating of 4-A or greater OR a charged hose with a nozzle attached is required to be readily available.



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- 15-foot distance from any structure is recommended.
- Fire shall be attended at all times.

**RECREATIONAL FIRE:** A recreational fire where the fuel is NOT contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbeque, grill or barbeque pit and has a total **FUEL AREA** of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

Use conditions:

- Only clean natural firewood, charcoal or manufactured fire logs are permissible fuels.
- Fire extinguisher with a rating of 4-A or greater OR a charged hose with a nozzle attached is required to be readily available.
- 25-foot distance from any structure is required.
- Not permitted during a burn ban.
- The fire is not being conducted on public property where fires are prohibited, such as in a park or on school grounds. Fires in parks are only allowed where specifically authorized and where appropriate burning receptacles are provided.
- If wind creates a hazard of fire spread the fire shall be extinguished.
- Vegetation or other combustible material creating a path for fire spread shall be removed prior to starting the fire.
- Fire shall be attended by an adult at all times.

**FUEL RESTRICTIONS:**

- Burning yard waste is illegal.
- Burning garbage is illegal.
- Burning cardboard or paper, except to start a fire is illegal.
- Burning building materials i.e. scrap wood, paint, vinyl flooring, roofing, carpet etc. is illegal.
- Burning dead animals is illegal.
- Burning of plastic, rubber, trash or other prohibited fuel may constitute an unauthorized release of hazardous material to the atmosphere.

**BONFIRE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FROM THE CAMAS-WASHOUGAL FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

A Bonfire Permit is required for open fires with a fuel volume exceeding 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height with more restrictive conditions. There is a permit fee associated with this activity. Contact the Camas-Washougal Fire Marshal's Office for further information. A permit is not required for ceremonial or underground cooking fires.

**FIRES ON PARKS PROPERTY**

Fires are NOT PERMITTED on parks property or parkway/trails within the city limits of Camas or the city limits of Washougal, except in places designated for such use.

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**ENFORCEMENT**

- All illegal or unattended fires shall be extinguished immediately.
- Causing a nuisance is illegal. If the smoke from the fire bothers the neighbors, damages their property or otherwise causes a nuisance, the fire shall be extinguished. Call 911 or Southwest Clean Air Agency for assistance.
- Violation of a BURN BAN ORDER is subject to citation from the Camas-Washougal Fire Department.
- Burning illegal fuel is subject to citation from the Camas-Washougal Fire Department and Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA).
- Violation of the Fire Code is a misdemeanor with penalties up to \$1000 and 90 days in jail.
- SWCAA penalties start at \$65 to a maximum of \$1,250 for each occurrence.

For more information about burn bans visit the Southwest Clean Air Agency web site at [www.swcleanair.org](http://www.swcleanair.org) or call 360-574-3058.

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