

**WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 11**  
**Lummi Island Fire Department**  
3809 Legoe Bay Road \* P.O. Box 130 \* Lummi Island, WA 98262  
Phone: (360) 758-2411 Fax: (360) 758-2041

**Resolution No. 2011-206**

**WHEREAS;** the Commissioners of Whatcom County Fire District #11 have determined that it is in the best interest of Whatcom County Fire District #11 to adopt revisions to the Outdoor Burning Programs provided by agreement with the Northwest Air Pollution Authority in accordance with Chapter 173-425 Washington State Administrative Code,

**NOW THEREFORE;** be it Resolved, that the Whatcom County Fire District #11 Board of Commissioners shall adopt the attached outdoor burning regulations and permit fees,

**AND,** be it further resolved that these outdoor burning regulations and permit fees shall be in effect beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

Approved and adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 11, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2011.

Attested by:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wendell Terry, Chairperson

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Busch, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Scott, Commissioner

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tammi Lynch, Board Secretary

The above Resolution was adopted at the Regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 11 on March 8, 2011 at the Lummi Island Fire Station, 3809 Legoe Bay Road, Lummi Island, WA 98262

# **Whatcom County Fire District 11 Outdoor Burning Regulations**

## **Types of Fires**

**Recreational Fires:** Recreational fires consist only of charcoal or firewood and are used for cooking or pleasure. No permit is required if the fire is less than 3 feet in diameter and all conditions are met including the following: The fire must be in an enclosure constructed of concrete, stones or steel. A 2 foot firebreak (bare ground or short green grass) must surround the enclosure. The fire must be 15 feet from any structure, and 5 feet from any shrubs or trees. A clear area must exist for 15 feet above the fire. A charged garden hose or 10 gallons of water with a bucket and a shovel or rake must be at the ready. Permit requirements for recreational fires larger than 3 feet in diameter are based on Fire Danger Rating Levels.

**Residential:** Residential fires are used for the disposal of natural vegetation produced by property maintenance and consist only of natural vegetation such as leaves, clippings, prunings and other yard and garden debris. All residential fires require either a general or written permit, Permit requirements are based on Fire Danger Rating Levels.

**Land-Clearing:** Land Clearing fires consist of natural vegetation generated from land clearing projects and may not be larger than 30 feet in diameter. An excavator or equivalent must be on-site with an operator. A written permit is required for all land clearing fires. The permit will stipulate additional conditions.

## **Outdoor Burning Conditions that Apply to ALL types of Burning**

- Only one pile at a time may be burned.
- The use of burn barrels is prohibited statewide.
- No burning when winds are greater than 10 MPH.
- The fire must be in attendance at all times by one person age 16 or older capable of extinguishing the fire.
- The fire must not produce smoke, odor or ash that unreasonably impacts neighboring properties.
- The landowner's permission must be obtained if not on your property.
- Beach fires must not be in or around driftwood.

## **Residential fires and Recreational fires larger than 3 feet in diameter**

- Minimum distance from structures, shrubs or trees: 5 times the pile diameter.
- Minimum firebreak (Bare Ground): 1½ times the pile diameter surrounding the entire pile.
- A completely clear area above the fire.
- A rake or shovel must be on site.
- Charged garden hose or 10 gallons of water and a bucket at the ready.

## **Recreational fires greater than 3 feet and Residential Permit Requirements**

### **Fire Danger Rating Levels**

- **LOW:** Greater than 10 feet = Written Permit; Less than 10 feet = General Permit.
- **MODERATE:** Greater than 4 feet = Written Permit; Less than 4 feet = General Permit.
- **HIGH:** All Written Permits Postponed: No fires greater than 4 feet in diameter allowed.
- **VERY HIGH:** Burn Ban: Recreational fires no larger than 2 feet in diameter only.
  - Beach fires must be below the most recent high tide level.
- **EXTREAME:** TOTAL Burn Ban: No Outdoor Burning (Charcoal and Propane only).

### **Prohibited Materials**

Garbage, petroleum products, paints, plastics, rubber, paper (other than necessary to start the fire), cardboard, treated wood, construction/demolition debris, metal, or any substance (other than natural vegetation) that normally releases toxic emissions, dense smoke, or obnoxious orders when burned.

### **Permits**

#### **General:**

- Available at The Islander Store located at 2106 South Nugent Road 98262 during normal business hours. No charge.
- Download at [www.lummiislandfire.com](http://www.lummiislandfire.com)

#### **Written:**

- Call 360-758-2411 to schedule a time to obtain a written permit.
- Cost: \$25.00 for 3 months \$50.00 for calendar year.
- All written permits expire December 31 of the year issued.

### **State and Local Authority**

Outdoor Burn Regulations and Enforcement are directed under the authority of WAC 173-425, RCW 52.12.101 through RCW 52.12.108 and WCFD # 11 Resolution No. 2011-206.

If the fire department is called to respond to, control, or extinguish an illegal or out-of-control fire they have the authority to charge, and recover from the person responsible for the fire, the costs of its response and control action.

### **Other Burn Bans**

Air Pollution Episode: Set by Northwest Clean Air Agency

Impaired Air Quality: Set by Northwest Clean Air Agency

# Whatcom County Fire District 11

## General Burning Permit

This Permit applies to the following:

- Recreational Fires larger than 3 feet in diameter unless a Burn Ban has been issued.
- Residential Fires up to 10 feet in diameter when Fire Danger Rating is at **LOW**.
- Residential Fires up to 4 feet in diameter when Fire Danger Rating is at **MODERATE** or **HIGH**.

Recreational Fires consist only of charcoal or firewood and are used for cooking or pleasure.

Residential Fires are used for the disposal of natural vegetation produced by property maintenance and consist only of natural vegetation such as leaves, clippings, prunings and other yard and garden debris.

### General Conditions

- Obtain the current Fire Danger Rating levels and Department of Ecology Burn Ban Information.
  - Smokey signs at Ferry Dock, and Scenic Estates
  - [www.lummiislandfire.com](http://www.lummiislandfire.com), [www.nwcleanair.org](http://www.nwcleanair.org)
  - Call 360-758-2411
- Only one pile at a time may be burned.
- No burning when winds are greater than 10 MPH.
- Fire must not produce smoke, odor or ash that unreasonably impacts neighboring properties.
- The landowner's permission must be obtained if not on your property.
- Fire must be in attendance at all times by one person age 16 or older capable of extinguishing the fire and have the ability to call 9-1-1.
- Minimum distance from structures: 5 times the pile diameter.
- Minimum distance shrubs or trees: 3 times the pile diameter.
- Minimum Fire Break (Bare Ground) 1½ times the pile diameter surrounding the entire pile.
- Complete clear area above the fire.
- A rake or shovel on site.
- Water requirements: Charged garden hose or 10 gallons of water and a bucket at the ready.

### Burn Bans

- TOTAL Burn Ban: No outdoor burning, charcoal and propane only
- Burn Ban: Recreational fires up to 2 feet in diameter only.
- Air Pollution Episode: Set by Northwest Clean Air Agency
- Impaired Air Quality: Set by Northwest Clean Air Agency

Prohibited materials: Garbage, petroleum products, paints, plastics, rubber, paper (other than necessary to start the fire), cardboard, treated wood, construction/demolition debris, metal, or any substance (other than natural vegetation) that normally releases toxic emissions, dense smoke, or obnoxious odors when burned.

Burn Barrels are illegal.

A fire protection authority called to respond to, control, or extinguish an illegal or out-of-control fire may charge, and recover from the person responsible for the fire, the costs of its response and control action.