



Ph. 503-845-2438

## Backyard Burning Regulations



### When is it allowed?

Typically there are two burn periods each year

- Between March 1 through June 15
- Between Oct. 1 through Dec. 15

*Complete Burn Bans can be ordered by the Marion County Fire Defense Board Chief based on fire safety risk such as extreme dryness and heat.*

## **BEFORE YOU BURN**

Call the Daily Burning Information Line

**877-982-0011**

### Does the County regulate "backyard" burning?

Yes. The County regulates open burning on property under Marion County jurisdiction through County Code Chapter 8.70.

### Are there exclusions to these

prohibitions? Yes. The prohibition of open burning does not include:

- Recreational and ceremonial fires not fueled by waste or yard debris;
- Agricultural open burning by an agricultural operation, or
- Operation of any barbecue equipment.

### If allowed, what materials can I burn?

- County Code allows only open burning of yard debris which is defined as wood, stalk, stem, needles or leaf material from trees, shrubs, plants and lawns that have grown on the property where burning will take place.

### What materials cannot be burned?

- Burning of waste which includes garbage, paper, clothing, plastic, and food waste is never allowed. Use of burn barrels is prohibited.

### When can I burn?

- Assuming you qualify, you are permitted to burn yard debris only on Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) authorized burn days during daylight hours of 7:30 a.m. to two hours prior to sunset.

### Don't be confused with "Agricultural Burning"

What is it?

The burning of agricultural waste generated by an operation that uses, or intends to use, land primarily for the purpose of obtaining a profit by raising, harvesting, and selling crops, or raising and selling animals (including poultry), or the products of animal husbandry.

### Can I use a burn barrel?

Burn barrels are inefficient and polluting because they produce low temperature fires and toxic smoke. This toxic smoke stays at ground level, where it is easily inhaled. It is better to burn in a loosely stacked pile for better airflow and combustion.

Based on DEQ regulations, commercial businesses are prohibited from backyard burning unless a special burn permit is obtained from DEQ;

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality regulates open burning in the Willamette Valley in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rules. DEQ has contracted with the Oregon Department of Forestry meteorology program to produce a daily Open Burning Announcement indicating types and times of burning allowed in the Willamette Valley based on expected meteorological conditions.

### State of Oregon DEQ:

Phone: (503) 229-5696 or toll free in

Oregon 1-800-452-4011

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/>

Marion County Environmental

Services has recycling and general disposal information: (503) 588-5169 and

<http://apps.co.marion.or.us/Recycle/>