

In Washington State...

- ⇒ **It is always illegal to use a BURN BARREL.**
- ⇒ **It is always illegal to burn prohibited materials including:**
- ◆ Garbage or refuse
 - ◆ Cardboard and paper
 - ◆ Building materials including paints, vinyl flooring, roofing and scrap lumber
 - ◆ Rubber products, including tires
 - ◆ Plastics or petroleum products
 - ◆ Material that produces smoke that is offensive or harmful to your neighbors
- ⇒ **It is always illegal to smoke out your neighbor.** If they complain, you are required to put the fire out immediately. You can be fined for causing a nuisance, and you may be held financially liable for damages caused by your fire.

For more information about other types of burning and regulations, contact your fire department or the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency: **1-800-552-3565** or **1-800-595-4341 (air quality hotline)**

www.pscleanair.org



10222 Bujacich Road NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98332
253-851-3111

www.gigharborfire.org

Burn Ban Information
253-851-0089

Recreational Fire Guidelines



Be Sure To Burn Responsibly!

Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One

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Recreational Fires

Recreational Fires are allowed in Pierce County Fire District #5 in a fire pit only after the following regulations have been followed. Due to the **Washington State Clean Air Act** revised in 1991, it is mandatory that recreational fires meet these requirements.

1. Recreational fires are limited to burning of dry, seasoned wood or charcoal briquettes, with a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet in height, for the purpose of cooking, pleasure or religious ceremonies.
2. Recreational fires shall be conducted in designated areas or on private property.
3. A recreational fire conducted on a beach or off a bulkhead must be constructed at least 25 feet from any combustible structures.
4. No garbage, dead animals, asphalt, petroleum products, paints, rubber products, tires, plastic, paper products, plywood, finished lumber, or particleboard may be burned.
5. No recreational fires shall be allowed during an air pollution episode, as directed by Puget Sound Clean Air.
6. Flammable liquids or accelerants cannot be used to start any recreational fire.

Frequently Asked Questions

Fire Location:

- ◆ Recreational Fires must be 25 feet away from any structure.
- ◆ Recreational fire pits shall be located not less than 10 feet from adjoining property lines, fences, or decks with no overhead branches.

Fire Construction:

- ◆ Recreational fire pits must be in a metal or cement lined fire pit or a purchased outdoor fireplace.
- ◆ The bottom of the pit may be of sand, or mineral earth.
- ◆ The recreational fire pit shall not exceed 3 feet in diameter. The depth of the pit shall be a minimum of 4 inches and capable of containing all burned material (no limbs or brush should extend beyond the pit area).

Maintenance:

- ◆ Recreational fire pits shall be maintained in good condition at all times.
- ◆ Fire extinguishing equipment such as buckets, shovels, or garden hoses shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.

Attendance:

- ◆ Recreational fire pits shall be constantly attended by a person knowledgeable in the use of fire extinguishing equipment required by this section. An attendant shall supervise a recreational fire until such fire has been completely extinguished.

Discontinuance:

- ◆ The fire department may require a recreational fire to be extinguished if the smoke emissions are offensive to occupants of surrounding property or if the fire is determined to constitute a hazardous condition.



The fire department is required to report infractions to the recreational fire requirements to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency. Non-compliance with these regulations can result in a civil penalty of up to \$16,000 or more per day.