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PRESS RELEASE SOUTHWEST AIR POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

(Issued: March 25, 1996)

OPEN BURNING

Due to the recent high winds occurring in Clark County, many residents have been faced with more back yard debris to dispose of than normal. While backyard burning has been permanently curtailed in much of the Vancouver area, there are alternative disposal methods that residents can use to get rid of this unwanted vegetation. The no burn boundary follows various geographical lines, but is approximately south of 159th Street and includes all of the City limits of Vancouver, Camas and Washougal. Maps are available by calling the Southwest Air Pollution Control Authority at 574-3058.

Curbside pickup is available to many residents of southern Clark County. If residents are not sure whether it is available to them, they should call their local sanitary service for information. Another alternative to backyard burning is chipping or grinding the debris. There are many companies in the area that provide this service. A listing can be obtained by calling 574-3058.

In order for residents of <u>northern Clark County</u> (i.e. north of 159th Street) to legally burn natural vegetation, they must obtain a fire control permit. For small fires (less than 10 feet in diameter) the permit can be obtained by stopping at their nearest fire station. There is no charge for these permits. The permit restrictions and instructions are included on the form. Natural vegetation is the only material allowed to be burned. Fires larger than 10 feet in diameter will require that the individual fill out a special application form at the Clark County Fire Marshal's Office for developed property and the Department of Natural Resources for undeveloped property. A fee is charged for the large fire permits. Any questions about open burning in Clark County can be addressed to the Clark County Fire Marshal's Office at 699-2375 extension 4106, the Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-527-3305, or to the Southwest Air Pollution Control Authority at 574-3058.

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