



# Cowlitz County

County Administration Building  
207 Fourth Avenue North  
Kelso, WA 98626  
[www.co.cowlitz.wa.us](http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us)

## News Release

### Emergency Burn Ban in Effect Beginning April 14, 2020

April 13, 2020

Effective 12:00 AM April 14, 2020, Cowlitz County will enact restrictions on outdoor burning. Fire conditions have been unusual with many wildfires burning in the area. The emergency burn ban will be in place temporarily and is expected to remain in effect until the conditions change. All land clearing, residential and silvicultural burning will be restricted until further notice. The Cowlitz County Fire Marshal is rescinding all burn permits issued prior to the burn ban; they can be reissued or extended when the ban is lifted.

#### Contact

Mike Wilson,  
Building Official  
Fire Marshal's Office  
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Recreational campfires are allowed if built in improved fire pits in designated campgrounds, such as those typically found in local, county, and state parks and in commercial campgrounds. On private land, recreational fires are permitted with the landowner's permission if built in the following approved manner:

- In a metal, stone or masonry lined fire pit such as those seen in approved campgrounds.
- Size may not exceed 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.
- Fires must be at least 25 feet from a structure or other combustible material and overhead fuels such as tree limbs, patio covers or carports.
- Portable outdoor or patio fireplaces should not be used within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Fires must be attended at all times by a responsible person at least 16-years old with the ability and tools to extinguish the fire, such as a shovel and either five gallons of water or a connected and charged water hose.

Please remember to completely extinguish campfires by pouring water or moist soil in them and stirring with a shovel until all parts are cool to the touch. The use of self-contained camp stoves is encouraged as an alternative.

For more information, please contact the Cowlitz County Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 577-3052 or visit the County's website at [www.co.cowlitz.wa.us](http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us).

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