



## PRESS RELEASE

**Date: April 15, 2020**  
**Contact: Doyle Sanford, Fire Marshal**  
**Phone: 360.740.2696**  
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### Outdoor Burning Safety

The Lewis County Fire Marshal's Office and local fire districts are encouraging the citizens of Lewis County to be diligent in safe burning practices due to the alarming number of runaway brush fires we are experiencing.

With the good weather and spring cleaning, it is important to take precautions to protect your property, as well as your neighbors'. Burn permits are required for any fire in excess of 3x3x2 feet. **Effective at noon, April 15, 2020, maximum size of piles are reduced to 10x10x6 until further notice.** Burn permits may be obtained online at <https://burnpermit.lewiscountywa.gov/>. Please follow all burn regulations.

Practice safe burning. Keep sufficient water and tools available. Have a charged garden hose long enough to reach around the fire and a shovel or rake on site.

Burn only when winds are calm or light and do not exceed 10 miles per hour.

Keep a fire break clear of grass and debris. The rule of thumb is 1.5 times the height of the fire. Burn piles should be a minimum 25 feet away from any structures or standing timber.

Never leave a fire unattended, even a small breeze can cause the fire to spread quickly. There should always be at least one person 16 years or older capable of putting out the fire on site.

Completely extinguish the fire with water to the point where coals are cool to the touch.

Remember, outdoor burning is restricted to *only natural vegetation* from the burn site. The burning of **garbage, paper or other refuse is strictly prohibited at all times.**

The burning of debris in city limits and urban growth areas is prohibited at all time.

Please refer to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for restrictions applying to outdoor burning conducted on DNR-protected forestlands throughout Washington, which includes state parks. You may obtain the information at [www.dnr.wa.gov/burn-restrictions](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/burn-restrictions).