

Alternatives to outdoor burning:

Composting, chipping and recycling are viable alternatives to outdoor burning that create a resource instead of air pollution and solid waste problems.

Composting is an easy and inexpensive way to turn yard and garden refuse into a usable and valuable product. Compost turns organic matter like leaves, grass, weeds, and wood chips, into a rich soil conditioner.



Chipping brush, prunings, land-clearing debris and wood waste makes an excellent mulch or substitute for decorative bark. Chips can protect soil and help keep weeds at bay. They can also be used to line garden paths and trails or provide a softer landing under playground equipment.



Recycling/Reuse. Options are available in our area for wood and building scraps, pallets, cardboard and other paper products, and even some types of plastic. Contact the State Recycling Hotline at (800) 732-9253 or check your yellow pages for locations near you.



Transfer Station/Landfill. The Skamania County Solid Waste Transfer Facility will accept organic waste for a reasonable fee. Call (509) 427-9456 for more information and locations nearest you.

SWCAA PROGRAMS & SERVICES

SWCAA offers information and assistance to individuals, homeowners and businesses in the following areas:

Public Information & Education

Complaint Response & Enforcement

Outdoor Burning

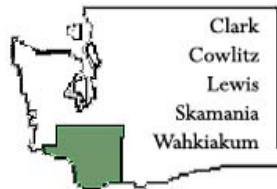
Wood Stoves

Asbestos

Business Assistance

Air Operating Permits

New Source Permitting



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SOUTHWEST CLEAN AIR AGENCY

Outdoor Burning Information for Skamania County



SKAMANIA COUNTY BURN PERMITS BROCHURE

WAC 173-425 bans the use of a **burn barrel** and **prohibits** the burning of **all material**, except natural vegetation grown on the property and firewood (defined as bare, untreated wood, not dimensional lumber). This regulation also prohibits burning during periods of impaired air quality and prohibits outdoor burning from becoming a nuisance to surrounding neighbors and businesses. Fire safety burn-bans may also be called by county or local fire protection authorities.

Burn Barrel Use Prohibited

The use of a **burn barrel** was **banned** in the State of Washington effective April 13, 2000. **Burning garbage** has been **illegal** in the State of Washington since 1967.

Recreational Fires

Recreational fires under 4'x4'x3', using charcoal or seasoned firewood (not lumber), are still allowed in all of Skamania County without a permit. For recreational fires in excess of 4'x4'x3' a small fire permit is required. These permits can be picked up at your local fire station or town hall and are free. If your area does not provide these permits contact the Skamania County Fire Marshal at (509) 427-3920.

Residential Burning

All residential burning under 10'x10'x5' requires a small fire permit. Piles of natural vegetation larger than 4'x4'x3' but smaller than 10'x10'x5' are only allowed October 16 through June 30. Piles of natural vegetation under 4'x4'x3' are allowed year round except during a fire danger burn ban.

These permits are currently available at your local fire station or town hall and are generally free. If your area does not provide these permits contact the Skamania County Fire Marshal at (509) 427-3920.

Land Clearing Burning

For piles larger than 10'x10'x5' and land clearing operations, a permit is required. The burn permit application can be printed from our website at swcleanair.org and then mailed, faxed or hand-delivered to SWCAA. A site visit is no longer required so a permit can be issued same day with a visit to SWCAA's office in Vancouver. The permit fee of \$100 must be paid to SWCAA prior to issuance of the permit.

Areas Where Burning Is Not Allowed.

WAC 173-425 prohibits outdoor burning in cities with a population of greater than 10,000 and their urban growth areas. Prohibitions also apply to adjacent areas with a population density of one thousand or more persons per square mile and areas with a reasonable alternative to burning.

Currently there are no areas in Skamania County that meet any of these criteria.

Silvicultural Burning

For all silvicultural/forest practice burning call the Pacific Cascades Region of the Department of Natural Resources at (360) 577-2025. There is a permit fee.

For Escaped Fires Call 9-1-1

