

OPEN BURNING PERMITS IN NORTH CAROLINA

What You Need to Know What It Is

An open burning permit is not a request for permission to burn but is instead a notification that a burn may occur. In North Carolina, between the hours of midnight and 4 p.m., a burning permit is required for any person intending to start or cause to start any fire or ignite any material in any woodland under the protection of the N.C. Forest Service and the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or within 500 feet of any such woodland. By law, we are required to provide a permit to any individual who asks for one.



What It Means

- ✓ Burn only during the duration indicated on your permit application.
- ✓ Conduct your burn safely and in accordance with state and local laws/rules.
- ✓ Permit can be canceled if fire danger is too high.



Rules for Safe Burning

ALL COUNTIES

Burn only natural vegetation, i.e., leaves, branches, yard debris

MOST COUNTIES

Permit required between midnight and 4 p.m.

HIGH HAZARD COUNTIES

For less than five acres
Permit always required

For more than five acres (land clearing)
Special permit required
Must meet additional safety conditions



See additional rules online

Get a Permit Fast & Free

Online: ncforestservice.gov/burnpermits

In person: N.C. Forest Service county office or local burn permitting agent



If You Burn Without a Permit:

- ➔ You may be required to extinguish the fire immediately.
- ➔ A ranger may step in and extinguish the fire.
- ➔ You may be held responsible.



The N.C. Forest Service is a division of the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
Steve Troxler, Commissioner

Don't Burn If:

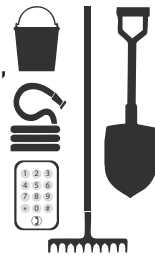
It's dry, warm or windy --
or when fire danger is high.



You can't keep your burn pile
small and in a clear area.



You don't have
a water source,
shovel, rake
and phone
nearby.



You can't stay with your fire.



Burn Ban = NO Open Burning

Open burning is prohibited, regardless of whether a permit is required, when the Commissioner of Agriculture enacts a state-issued ban on open burning.

Remember, if you are unsure, contact your
N.C. Forest Service county ranger's office
for guidance.



For best practices, prevention tips and risk reduction
steps you can take, visit

www.preventwildfirenc.org

**Burn permits don't cost anything.
Wildfires can cost everything.**

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