

## **OUTDOOR BURNING POLICY**

**Scope:** The Seal Rock Rural Fire Protection District (SRRFPD) The Outdoor Burning Policy is created to facilitate safe burning practices to protect the lives and property of the residents of our district.

### **ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING**

There is always a danger to lighting something on fire no matter how safely and carefully it is done. There is always a risk to our neighbors that are in poor health. When we burn it affects the air quality.

It is the position of the SRRFPD that, it will always be preferred that our citizens would chose an alternative method to burning yard waste and woody material. These alternatives would be the composting of yard waste, utilization of a wood chipper or selecting one of the agencies listed below.

**Dahl Disposal Services-** Call 541-563-3888 for more information about their yard debris, leaf recycling, clean lumber and composting programs.

**Toledo Recycling & Transfer Center-**541-336-2932 Woody Debris program in this program you can drop off any yard debris from your property at no cost.

**Alsea Bay Power Products-** Alsea Bay Power has wood chippers and chipper shredders available for rent – 541-563-4266

This Outdoor Burning policy is created to include:

- Open Pile Burning
- Recreational Fires
- Burn Barrels
- Special Fires Burn Criteria and Required Permits.

### **Legal and code References**

2010 OFC Sections 307, OAR 340.023-035,

There are numerous regulations applicable to different type of fires. Please consult the type of fire and the pertinent requirements listed below that apply to your situation.

### **OPEN PILE BURNING**

#### **Definition**

Open burning, pile(s) - a controlled burning of vegetation, brush, and/or branches that are configured in piles. Stumps are not permitted to be burned if they are still rooted in the ground.

Burn Policy for Seal Rock Rural Fire Protection District  
P.O. Box 220 Seal Rock OR 97376  
Administrative Office at 2009 Hilton Drive, Waldport OR 97394  
Phone 541-563-4441 Fax 541-563-3175

**Open Burn, Pile(s) Burnable Material:**

Yard trimmings, leaves, vegetation, brush, and branches can be burned. Do not burn garbage, tires, furniture, petroleum based products, plastic, synthetic wood, treated wood, construction materials, etc.

**Pile Size:**

Multiple Piles and Piles that exceed 8 feet by 8 feet shall require preapproval and site inspection before the burn.

**Pile Preparation:**

Piles must contain dry material to facilitate a clean burn that produces minimal smoke. Which means the material may have to be cut and piled and covered for up to one year prior to burning.

Piles must be at least 50 feet from buildings, wood piles, fences, propane tanks, and/or combustible material.

Piles shall have at least a 17-foot separation.

Plow a barrier around the pile.

- A mow or weed eat a 17-foot wide strip around the pile perimeter; or
- A 17-foot wide strip of green cover crop or bare earth.

**Water Supply for Multiple Piles:**

One or two piles must have a garden hose or water can readily available.

Three to five piles shall have at least one water tank with a minimum 500 gallon water capacity.

Over five piles shall have at least one water tank with a minimum 1,000 gallon water capacity.

**Firefighting Equipment:**

All water tank vehicles shall be equipped with an operable pump with a capacity of at least 30 gpm, a hose, and nozzle.

Provide the vehicles with trained operators and it is recommended to have at least two operators.

Water tankers shall be filled to 90 percent capacity prior to the open burn.

**Means of Communication:**

Have the ability to call for assistance or 9-1-1 at all times.

**Fire Safety Watch:**

Provide a continuous fire watch.

Patrol the perimeter of the area during the burn.

Continue the watch for at least 30 minutes after the flame ceases.

More than five piles shall have a firefighting vehicle with a water tank with at least a 1,000 gallon capacity with a pump and ability to pump 30 gpm.

**Wind Conditions:**

A burn shall not occur when winds are excessive; when in doubt call the fire department and ask.

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**RECREATIONAL FIRE**

**Definition**

Recreational Fire - An outdoor fire no larger than 3 x 3, in device or in area with a brick or rock parameter such as barbeque pits, chiminnas, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, and barbeque grill, and has a total fuel area restricted to 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes. This devise can only burn wood, charcoal, LNG/LPG or manufactured fireplace logs. You cannot burn materials such as rubbish, plastic, construction material. This devise will not be used as an incinerator.

Below are commercially purchased fire pits and chiminnas typically designed for use on a patio. They should be used with screens or spark arrestors.



BELOW GRADE FIRE PIT



ABOVE GRADE FIRE PIT



PRE-FAB FIRE PIT



CHIMINNAS

## SPECIAL FIRES

### Definition

Special Fires - includes bonfires for celebratory reasons, luau's or similar type fires.  
When to Burn: During daylight hours only; and during burn season but not during fire season; A burn shall not occur when winds are excessive; when in doubt call the fire department and ask.



BON FIRE



LUAU (ROASTING A PIG IN THE GROUND)  
OR SIMILAR TYPE FIRE

**Recreational Burn Pits** The following does not apply to gas (natural or LP) pits. Fire Pits and Barbeque Pits including those in the ground:

Locate the fire pit in a clear area at least 25 feet from structures, combustible vegetation, fences, overhangs, and property lines.

Grasses and weeds within 25 feet of the pit shall be cut to ground level unless the grass is green and cut.

Fuel shall be limited to wood or charcoal.

Provide a garden hose, attached to a water supply, which will reach the area of the pit.

Provide a shovel.

The fire will be constantly attended and supervised by an adult.

### **Bonfires**

Not Permitted during fire season.

A burn shall not occur when winds are excessive; when in doubt call the fire department and ask.

Piles must be at least 50 feet from buildings, wood piles, fences, propane tanks, and/or combustible material.

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- A plowed or clear 20-foot wide strip around the pile perimeter; or
- A 5-foot wide strip around the field perimeter, and remove and cut down grass/brush for a 15-foot wide strip adjacent to the 5-foot wide strip; or
- A 20-foot wide strip of a maximum of 6" in height green vegetation or bare earth.

A bonfire shall not be placed under power lines but at least 20-foot horizontal distance away from being under the power lines.

**Burnable Material:**

Yard trimmings, leaves, brush, lumber, and wood can be burned. Do not burn garbage, tires, furniture, petroleum based products, plastic, synthetic wood, treated wood, construction materials, etc.

**Pile Size:**

Piles that exceed 8 feet by 8 feet shall also require preapproval and site inspection before the burn.

During daylight hours only except when the pile size is limited to 4' L by 4' W by 4' H for night burns.

**Water Supply:**

The site shall have at least one water tank with a minimum 1,000 gallon water capacity, or a preapproved alternate. For the small night bonfire noted above, the water capacity may be reduced by half.

**Firefighting Equipment:**

The water tank vehicle shall be equipped with an operable pump with a capacity of at least 30 gpm, a hose, and nozzle.

Provide the vehicles with trained operators and it is recommended to have at least two operators.

Water tankers shall be filled to 90 percent capacity before the bonfire.

**Means of Communication:**

Have the ability to call for assistance or 9-1-1 at all times.

**Fire Safety Watch:**

Provide a continuous fire watch and patrol the area around the bonfire during the burn to check for spot fires.

Continue the watch for at least 30 minutes after the flame ceases.

Luau (underground pig roast) or similar type fire

Preparation Fire:

During daylight hours only unless preapproved.

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Locate the fire pit in a clear area at least 25 feet from structures, combustible vegetation, fences, overhangs, and property lines.

Provide constant supervision by an adult who will provide a fire watch.

A burn shall not occur when winds are excessive; when in doubt call the fire department and ask.

A fire shall not be placed under power lines but at least 10-foot horizontal distance from being under the power lines.

A 20-foot wide clear strip around the fire shall be provided. Within the strip, any grass/weeds shall be cut to ground level, loose brush and leaves shall be removed, and trees shall be have limbs removed to ten feet above ground level.

A continuous water source (garden hose) shall be provided that can reach 30 feet beyond the fire in all directions.

Have the ability to call for assistance or 9-1-1 at all times.

### **Burn Barrels**



Burn barrels shall be at least 15 feet of clearance from structures, combustible vegetation, fences, overhangs, and property lines. Grasses and weeds within 15 feet of the burn barrel shall be cut to ground level unless the grass is green and cut. There is no need for a burn permit for burn barrels. Do not burn garbage, tires, furniture, petroleum based products, plastic, synthetic wood, treated wood, construction materials, etc.

Penalties: First offence verbal warning.

Second offence fire will be extinguished and fire will be extinguished and you will not be allowed to burn for one week.

Third offence burning privileges will be revoked for the year.