



DNR Burn Ban Factsheet 2016

In an effort to reduce human-caused wildfires during hot and dry summer months, DNR has a burn ban in place.

- The ban has been **lifted** west of the Cascades to allow outdoor burning.
- The ban east of the Cascades has **eased** to allow for campfires in approved fire pits in designated campgrounds only.

Campfires are allowed statewide on DNR-protected lands. County burn bans may still be in effect in various locations throughout Washington, and residents should check with local fire districts for information. This ban still prohibits outdoor burning on all state, county, city, and private land under DNR fire protection east of the Cascades.

Why does DNR have a burn ban?

Human activities are the number-one cause of destructive wildfires. Restricting those activities helps reduce the likelihood a fire will start.

What IS allowed during the eastside burn ban?

- Campfires will be permitted only in approved fire pits in designated campgrounds on lands protected by DNR.
- Charcoal briquettes.
- Lanterns, stoves, candles and tiki-style torches that use non-pressurized liquid gas or fuel.

What is NOT ALLOWED during the eastside burn ban?

- Debris burning.
- Fireworks of any kind.
- Any incendiary devices, such as exploding targets, sky lanterns, or tracer ammunition.

It is YOUR responsibility to [know the burning rules](#).

- For state laws governing DNR-regulated burning, see [Chapter 76.04 RCW](#).
- For DNR administrative rules, see [Chapter 332-24 WAC](#).

What are the consequences for starting a wildfire during a burn ban?

- A violation of this burn ban is punishable as a crime.
- In addition to criminal prosecution, DNR may pursue civil actions against any person whose negligence is responsible for starting or allowing a fire to spread.
- **If your fire escapes or otherwise causes a wildfire, you will be responsible for paying for people and equipment for fire suppression** as required by Chapter 76.04 RCW.

If you have questions about a particular combustion device not listed above, please contact DNR's fire prevention and control staff at your local [DNR Region Office](#). You also can contact your [local fire district](#) with questions.