

NORTH METRO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

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www.northmetrofire.org



Steven Gosselin
Division Chief

STANDARD REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTROLLED BURNING Plus Additional Information and Instructions for Open Burn Permits

1. All burning shall be conducted as required by governing agencies regulating fire code, emissions and public safety;
 - a. **Fire Code - The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)** is the Fire Department that is responsible for enforcing the Fire Code within its jurisdiction. Each city or county has adopted a Fire Code, and that code is enforced accordingly by the AHJ. North Metro Fire Rescue District is the AHJ in the following areas: the City of Northglenn, the City & County of Broomfield, and respective portions of unincorporated Adams, Boulder, Jefferson, and Weld Counties. In the event that the area being burned is located within more than one fire jurisdiction, all requirements for each pertinent fire department must be met prior to commencing the burn.

The Fire Chief, or his designee, is empowered to ban all open burning when necessary, e.g., high fire danger, high winds, etc.
 - b. **Emissions - County Health Departments** throughout the State are responsible for insuring acceptable air quality within their jurisdiction. Each County imposes individual restrictions on open burning in an effort to reduce emissions that might negatively affect clean air status. For that reason, open burning between November 1 and March 31 is seldom allowed; and during the remaining months of the year burning is permitted by Exemption only. **Contact the Health Department for your area to obtain an exemption letter that permits open burning.** Adams and Weld county residence, please contact the State of Colorado.

Boulder County Health	303-441-1100 (Phone)	303-441-1468 (Fax)	https://bouldercounty.gov/safety/fire/burn-permits/
Broomfield County Health	720-887-2220 (Phone)	720-887-2229 (Fax)	https://www.broomfield.org/3934/Burn-Permits
Jefferson County Health	303-271-5700 (Phone)	303-271-5760 (Fax)	https://www.jeffco.us/2356/Open-Burning
State of Colorado	303-692-3268 (Phone)	303-782-0278 (Fax)	https://cdphe.colorado.gov/outdoor-burning

The County Health Department is empowered to ban all open burning for reasons deemed necessary, e.g., poor air quality, etc. Contact the Clean Air Advisory Line to determine if open burning is permitted. Clean Air Advisory "Blue Line" **303-758-4848**.
 - c. **Public Safety - The County Sheriff** is empowered to ban all open burning for reasons deemed necessary, e.g., high fire danger, etc. Notification is provided via a Press Release to local newspapers with a copy provided to the fire jurisdiction(s) affected.
2. North Metro Fire Rescue District requires that a copy of the County Health Department exemption letter accompany an application for permit in order to process any request for an open burn.
3. All open burns are subject to inspection prior to the permit being authorized or at any time during the permit period. Three business days shall be permitted to allow scheduling of the inspection. The inspector is empowered to approve, modify or deny any permit based on evaluation of the conditions.
4. North Metro Fire Rescue District must be notified by phone (720-887-8217) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to receive verbal authorization to burn prior to commencement of the burn. Weekend burning shall be called in between 3:45 and 4:30 p.m. on the Friday preceding the burn. Please provide the date, time, burn location, responsible party and telephone number each time a burn is going to be conducted.
5. All burning shall be done at a distance of more than 50-feet from any buildings or exposures. Additionally, there shall be a minimum 50-foot fire break around and adjacent to any buildings or exposures. The effective fire break may be made by removing and clearing away all vegetation or other combustible growth for a distance of not less than 50-feet on each side.
6. **During burning, a water supply (minimum 250 gallons) capable of being pumped by the responsible party, or a garden hose connected to a well or municipal water shall be kept on hand. Plus, additional fire extinguishing equipment may be required.**
7. Applicant(s) for such permit must be in legal control of the property on which burning is to be conducted.
8. The burning of waste matter is strictly prohibited. Exceptions may be granted by the regulating health department; however, NMFDRD reserves the right to deny this type of burn.
9. Burning shall constantly be attended by a competent person and shall be completely extinguished before being abandoned.
10. Burning shall be conducted in a continuous area.
11. There shall be no burning on windy or gusty days.
12. All burning shall take place after sunrise and be completed before sunset unless specifically permitted by the Fire District.
13. **LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE** - The expenses of fighting any fire which is the result of a violation of these stipulations may be charged against the person(s) whose violation caused the fire. Damages caused by such fires shall constitute a debt of such person and may be collected by the Fire Chief in the same manner as in the case of obligation under a contract, expressed or implied. Applicants are responsible for any damages to the property of others should their actions cause such damage. Additionally, criminal charges may be filed when warranted.
14. A permit may be revoked, at any time, if the Fire District determines that any of the above-mentioned requirements have not been followed or if it is determined that the fire constitutes a hazardous condition. The re-issuance of a revoked permit will be at the sole discretion of NMFDRD.