

# **OPEN BURNING INFORMATION**

*FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

## **GENERAL**

This permit is granted pursuant to 32-1-1002 C.R.S. and the 2003 IFC as amended.

Certain items are only permitted to be burned after issuance of a permit from the State of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in accordance with the Colorado Air Quality Control Act 25-7-123.C.R.S., Article 1. Enforcement of these standards is done by the Public Health Official, Jim Rada (970) 625-5200 ext. 8113. Issuance of a burn permit by the Fire Authority or Sheriff's Department does not negate the authority of the Public Health Official, nor shift the responsibility of the individual obtaining the permit to abide by all applicable laws.

This permit shall be retained on site by the person supervising the burning and shall be shown upon request to any fire department, law enforcement, or public health official.

Failure to comply with any of the above mentioned statutes, ordinances, rules or regulations within, may result in making this permit null and void and the penalties therein shall be in force. Omission by name or number of any other relevant statute, ordinance, code(s), rules or regulations from this permit does not relieve the applicant's responsibility of compliance with the same.

## **Exempt Open Burning Activities**

Recreational fires in fire pits not larger than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.

## **Permitted Burning**

- Tree, weed, brush or slash piles.
- Agriculture burning to prepare soil for:
  - crop production,
  - weed control/abatement,
  - ditch clearing, and
  - Other agricultural cultivation purposes.
- Paper product wastes from household use.

## **Non-Permitted Burning**

- Rubbers or plastics
- Burning of materials that cause a dense smoke or odor
- Treated wood
- Construction waste materials
- Chemicals
- Materials that will cause an emission of hazardous or toxic fumes
- Burning of materials for land clearing for commercial development purposes

## **Rules for Safe Burning Operations**

- Notify the Garfield County Emergency Communications Authority at (970) 625-8095 prior to starting each burn and after completing each burn.
- Make small diameter, short piles rather than one large, sprawling fire and feed the fire as it gets hot; don't allow smoldering. (Maximum size 8-ft x 8-ft x 3-ft)
- No burning within 50' (50 feet) of combustibles or structures.
- At no time shall fires be allowed to be left unattended.
- The person responsible for the fire shall have the ability to visually see the entire burn area at all times of the burning operations.
- A method to extinguish the fire shall be present during burning operations. Adequate water is preferred, but items may include: fire extinguishers, hand tools, dirt or sand. Tools allowed and available water quantities shall be adequate to the time of year and the anticipated fire behavior.
- Burning is permitted during daylight hours only and although not required, it is strongly recommended that burning operations are completed by late morning. Fires are to be extinguished a minimum of ½ hour prior to sunset.
- Burn permits are only valid for 14 days from issuance with the exception of agricultural burns, which are valid for 1 year from issuance.
- It is preferred that materials to be burned are disposed of in other ways in order to prevent pollution/smoke. Some alternative options that may be used are: take it to the landfill, lumber for firewood, use the counties or cities free disposal days, free hazardous materials waste disposal days, chip wood for mulch.

## **Burn Restrictions/Open Burning Notification**

Possession of an open burning permit does not constitute the authority to burn at any time. Burn restrictions and bans may be implemented on a daily basis by the fire authority or the sheriff for reasons including, but not limited to weather conditions, resource availability, dangerous burn indexes, high wind conditions, etc. The Garfield County Emergency Communications Center will have information on burn restrictions.

If changes occur in weather conditions after an open burn has been started, the local fire authority or Sheriff may require the fire to be extinguished.