

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
Fire Marshal's Office
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
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J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director/Fire Marshal

Wain Harrison
Deputy Fire Marshal

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Jack Louws, County Executive
Fire Dispatch
County & City Officials
Fire Chiefs

FROM: Wain Harrison, Deputy Fire Marshal
THROUGH: Mitch Nolze, Fire Inspector

DATE: September 26, 2016

SUBJECT: Burn Ban Lifted

All open burning restrictions, under jurisdiction of unincorporated Whatcom County are hereby lifted, effective at 8:00 AM the 27th day of September, by order of Whatcom County Deputy Fire Marshal Wain Harrison.

For current outdoor burning information please call **778-5903**. A verbal permit can also be obtained at this number for any fire that meets all of the criteria for fires not exceeding 4' X 4'. All outdoor burning requires a permit, except **legal** recreational fires. **Written permits for fires larger than 4' X 4' will be available beginning 8:30 AM on September 27th.**

Visit our website at <http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/381/Fire-Marshal> for full outdoor burning regulations and permit requirements.

A permanent ban on open burning remains in effect in the Cities of Bellingham, Lynden, Ferndale, Blaine, Everson, Nooksack, Sumas, Birch Bay, Kendall, the Cherry Point area and their Urban Growth Areas.

Please remember as outdoor burning restrictions are reduced:

- Only natural vegetation, grown on the burn site property, is allowed to be burned. (Exception for seasoned firewood or charcoal for recreational fires)
- Any repeat violator sites should be forwarded to the Fire Marshal's Office for follow-up, or request a fire investigator to be paged while on-scene to begin the enforcement process when educational contacts have failed.
- Violations of these burn restrictions can result in a minimum \$250.00 fine. Repeat violators should be reported to the Fire Marshal's Office for enforcement.
- Take photos of illegal burn piles if possible and refer reports to the Fire Marshal's Office for reporting to the Northwest Clean Air Agency when appropriate.