## What are some of the conditions of an open burning permit?

Conditions listed in an open burning permit include:

🔥 **Start ignition no earlier than one hour after sunrise and extinguish fire two hours before sunset.**

🔥 **Burn only dry material.**

🔥 **Maintain a clearance of 50 feet from any structure.**

🔥 **Start the fire without use of items that can produce black smoke.**

🔥 **Notify the local fire fighting agency prior to burning.**

🔥 **Adhere to all local fire restrictions.**

🔥 **Burn only during favorable wind conditions.**

🔥 **Remain at the site of the fire until completely extinguished, and have equipment available to control the burn and put out the fire if necessary.**

🔥 **Post a copy of the burn permit on site.**

## Who can I contact for more information?

ADEQ's Web site, www.azdeq.gov, contains additional information on open burning requirements, including the ADEQ application form and a list of fire fighting agencies with delegated permitting authority.

Residents may also contact ADEQ:

**ADEQ**
Arizona Department
of Environmental Quality

1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 771-2300 or (800) 234-5677

Hearing impaired persons may call
our TDD line at (602) 771-4829

# PRACTICE RESPONSIBLE OPEN BURNING

## SHOW YOU CARE PROTECT THE AIR!

**ADEQ**
Arizona Department
of Environmental Quality

Open burning, which is the practice of burning unwanted vegetation and other types of waste in the outdoors, is regulated by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

As residents of Arizona seek to make their properties fire safe, an awareness of open burning requirements will help facilitate safe and proper disposal of waste vegetation and other unwanted materials.

## Why is open burning regulated?

Burning waste materials, including yard waste, construction debris and garbage - especially if items contain plastics, rubber, paints or other synthetic materials - can produce a lot of smoke and many toxic pollutants including carbon monoxide, furans, dioxin and heavy metals such as lead, mercury, cadmium and chromium. Smoke from open burning is a threat to public health, especially the health of children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing conditions such as asthma. Open burning is also a source of regional haze. Open burning permits are required by law to help reduce impacts from smoke.

## How is open burning regulated?

Prior to burning, an open burning permit must first be obtained from ADEQ or a fire district or department with authority delegated from ADEQ.

Fires used for cooking, heating, recreation and branding or in orchard heaters do not require a permit.

## Children's Environmental Health

ADEQ has set the initial focus of the Children's Environmental Health Project on improving statewide air quality and reducing the incidence of asthma and other children's respiratory illnesses. Since smoke often triggers asthma, adhering to the state's open burning regulations will help protect children's health.

## How may I obtain an open burning permit?

To obtain a permit, complete and sign a brief application form and fax, mail or deliver it to the permitting authority listed on the form. Applications are processed quickly and open buring permits can be effective for up to one year.

## Are there materials which cannot be burned?

Yes. Materials most likely to produce toxic smoke cannot be burned. The state's open burning rule lists these prohibited materials, such as: chemically treated wood, tires, batteries, hazardous waste products, asphalt shingles, asbestos, explosives and ammunition, waste petroleum products, and so forth.

Vegetative debris, with the exception of poison ivy, poison sumac, poison oak and oleander, may be burned with a permit. Burning of household waste (garbage) is only allowable with a permit, and in very rural areas where trash collection is not available.

## What are some other ways to reduce smoke produced by open burning?

Burning only dry materials, utilizing alternative disposal options (e.g. composting, recycling, etc.), burning in piles, and minimizing the soil content of the waste material are examples of ways to reduce smoke.