



Southwest Clean Air Agency

Agricultural Burn Permit Application

(This application is not for orchard tear out)

Instructions:

Is an Agricultural Burning Permit Required?

All commercial agricultural operations must obtain a permit prior to burning natural vegetation except when burning orchard pruning, natural vegetation along fence lines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must notify your fire protection authority and/ or dispatch (check with specific county) prior to igniting **any** fire, even if an air quality permit is not required.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)*

Agricultural burning is allowed when it is reasonably necessary to carry out the enterprise. A grower can show it is reasonably necessary when it meets the criteria of the BMPs and no practical alternative exists. BMPs are one of the ways to demonstrate the need to burn. Growers not using these BMPs must establish that their proposed burn is reasonably necessary and that no practical alternative is available. The burden of proof is on the grower, and the demonstration must satisfy the Southwest Clean Air Agency and the Washington Department of Ecology.

***Best Management Practices** can be found at the Southwest Clean Air Agency website, www.swcleanair.org, or by calling SWCAA at 360-574-3058 or 1-800-633-0709.

Completing the Application

1. Fill out the information requested on the following pages. ***The application must be completed and signed, otherwise this will be an incomplete application. The permit may be denied if all information is not provided.***
2. Attach a map of the acreage you are proposing to burn with the outline clearly marked. The **map must include Section lines and roads, as well as Township and Range coordinates.** Hand drawn maps are acceptable if they meet the above requirements (The NRCS farm plan aerial photo maps, FSA aerial photos, or USGS 7.5 minutes maps are good for this purpose.)
3. Attach documentation of the management history and the future management plan of the area requested to burn.
4. Calculate total acres and the fee in the space provided. ****Minimum fee is \$25.00.***
5. Sign and date the application.
6. Mail the application and check for the permit fee to the following address:

**Southwest Clean Air Agency
11815 NE 99th Street, Suite 1294
Vancouver, WA 98682-2322**

What Happens Next?

The Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) will evaluate your application and determine if you have demonstrated that burning is necessary to carry out your enterprise and that no practical alternatives exist. SWCAA will then act on a **completed** application within seven (7) days and will either send you a permit or a written explanation as to why the application was denied.

Your permit, if issued, will be valid for either Spring Season (January 1- June 30) or Fall Season (July 1- December 31).

Refund Policy

Refunds may be available if a permit application is denied or if no burning or partial burning takes place. Contact the Southwest Clean Air Agency or see the “permit conditions” section of your permit for more information.

This page may be used for additional information or suggestions for improvements of the permit application.

Section 1. Application Information

Details of Proposed Burn(s) _____ *Application #* _____ *(to be filled in by SWCAA)*

1. Is the applicant the operator? Yes or No
2. Is the applicant a: Business Individual
3. For the acreage listed, is the applicant the: Lessee/Renter Owner

Applicant Information:			Land Owner or Contractor Information: <i>please specify which</i> (this information is optional)		
Name: _____			Name: _____		
Business Name: _____			Business Name: _____		
Mailing Address: _____			Mailing Address: _____		
City	State	Zip	City	State	Zip
Contact Person:			Contact Person:		
Home:		Work:	Home:		Work:
Shop:		Cell:	Shop:		Cell:
FAX:		Other:	FAX:		Other:

Section 2. Burn summary and calculation of permit fee (please complete after the entire form has been filled out)

Burn	Common Name: How do you commonly refer to this area? i.e. "Smith Place"	Acres	Crop	Yield in last year harvested	Expected Burn Date
Burn #1					
Burn #2					
Burn #3					
Burn #4					
Burn #5					
Burn #6					

*Total acres requested to burn _____ X \$2.00 = \$ _____

*Minimum \$25.00 permit fee

Refund Policy:

Refunds may be available if a permit application is denied or if no burning or partial burning takes place. Permits are valid for either Spring season (January 1 through June 30) or Fall season (July 1 through December 31). **Check with the Southwest Clean Air Agency or check "permit conditions" for exact terms and dates for refund processing.**

All permits (denied or approved) are subject to a \$25.00 non-refundable administrative fee.

Section 3: Applicant Statement

Permit applicants are required to follow and obey all applicable provisions of the Washington Clean Air Act, Chapter 70.94 RCW and Chapter 173-430 WAC, Agricultural Burning. The Applicant, if granted a permit, agrees to comply with the following conditions and any additional conditions contained in a permit or other application for permit:

1. **If you are demonstrating necessity to burn by use of a Best Management Practice,* you must certify that you have read and understand and will follow the Best Management Practices specific to this type of burning, that you believe the proposed burning is reasonably necessary, and that no practical alternative exists.**
Best Management Practices* can be found at the Southwest Clean Air Agency website, www.swcleanair.org, or by calling SWCAA at 360-574-3058 or 1-800-633-0709.
2. **You certify that you are a verified commercial agricultural operation as defined in Chapter 173-430 WAC.** An IRS schedule F is generally considered adequate documentation.
3. **You agree to grant the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) access to the acreage listed on any agricultural burning permit, including those private roads or access ways under your control that are required to obtain access to the listed acreage for the purpose of investigating conditions specific to any agricultural burning permit issued by SWCAA.** To the extent reasonable and consistent with carrying out the duties of the agricultural burning permitting program, you will be notified and given the option to accompany SWCAA when accessing your property.

I certify that the information provided as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have read, understand and agree to abide by the conditions above.

Signature _____

Date _____

Printed Name _____

BURN #	Burn Location – Common Name	Fire District (Optional)	Burn Zone (if applicable)	Expected Burn Dates (optional)	
				Start	End

Section 4. Best Management Practice and Field Description (Use separate sheet for each burn)

Best Management Practice (BMPs)

-Cereal Grain (chose 1 from Cereal Grain BMPs): Residue Mgmt. _____ Pest Mgmt. _____ Other (define) _____

-Non-Cereal (write number letter selection with title from the appropriate Non-Cereal BMPs): _____

Note: If no BMP is being used the grower must state why the burning is necessary to carry out the enterprise and that no practical alternative is reasonably available. Provide reasoning on a separate sheet(s) and attach.

Crop Type (be specific, use “spring wheat” instead of “wheat” or “stubble”) _____

Acres to be burned: _____ Total acres in the field: _____ Irrigated? Yes _____ No _____

What is the average yield? _____ What is the estimated average residue level? _____

Has the residue level been measured for the area requested to burn? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, by whom and what is the residue load? _____

Does this represent? Entire Field or Selected Spots

Section, township, and range for field or portions of a field to be burned for *this burn only*. (List each section within a township and range separately. i.e. NW ¼ of the NW ¼ S 22 T 23N R 25) (See burn permit packet “How To Describe Your Burn Location”).

1/4 or 1/2	1/4 or 1/2	Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range

- Attach a map providing *specific* location of field or portions of field to be burned. Include clearly marked and section, township, and range coordinates.

Specific driving directions to burn location (required) / **street address** (if available): _____

Has the applicant evaluated the field? Yes _____ No _____ If No, who evaluated the field?
 If third party evaluation was done, attach a copy.

Name: _____ Business: _____
 Title: _____ Phone: _____
 Affiliation: _____
 Address: _____

Section 5. Documentation showing why a burn is reasonably necessary to carry out the agricultural enterprise (Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-430-040(1) and Cereal/ Non-Cereal BMPs)

For crop harvested in the year:	Crop Harvested (crop type)	Was the residue from this crop burned?	
		Yes	No
2000		Yes	No
2001		Yes	No
2002		Yes	No
2003		Yes	No

Provide a detailed explanation as to why you believe burning is necessary. (attach additional sheets if necessary).

Describe future crop rotations and/or plans for future non-burning for the area where burning is being requested. (attach additional sheets if necessary)

Does this burn comply with conditions of your conservation plan? Yes _____ No _____

Describe your tillage/seeding plans following the burn. _____

If you were not allowed to conduct this burn what would you consider doing; and why are you not using those methods for this field? What alternatives have you tried? _____

Does this burn enable you to transition into non-burning alternatives? Yes _____ No _____

Explain: _____

