

Guide to Burning

in Mesa County



Read through this guide and click the link at the end to apply for your Agricultural Burn Permit!

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Why is burning regulated?

1. To protect the health of our residents
2. To reduce pollution in Mesa County

What permits are offered?

1. Agricultural Burn Permit

- a. \$0 fee
- b. Valid for a calendar year
- c. Combined with the fire safety regulations.
 - i) Registering for this permit gives your local fire department a heads up that you'll be burning.

2. General Burn Permit

- a. \$10 fee.
- b. A new permit must be purchased for each burn season - Spring and Fall.

3. City of Grand Junction Permit

- a. Contact the Grand Junction Fire Department at (970) 549-5800 or click [here](#).

When can I burn?

1. Agricultural Burn Permits allow burning year-round.
2. General Burn Permits allow burning only during the burn seasons
 - a. Spring Open burn Season - March 1 through May 31
 - b. Fall Open Burn Season - September 1 through October 31
3. Burns must take place two hours after sunrise and must be completely extinguished two hours before sunset.

*Residents above 6,000 feet elevation are exempt from the seasonal restrictions.

What can I burn?

- ✓ Agricultural Burns - materials related to the agricultural process
 - a. cover vegetation to prepare the land for crop production
 - b. orchard trimmings
 - c. weeds
 - d. maintenance of irrigation ditches
- ✓ General Burns
 - a. dry weeds
 - b. dry garden waste
 - c. clean, dry tree, shrub or brush trimmings less than 1" in diameter

What can't I burn?

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| ✗ Trash | ✗ Treated wood or pallets | ✗ Insulation |
| ✗ Tree stumps | ✗ Construction debris/ lumber | ✗ Aerosol cans |
| ✗ Tires | ✗ Hazardous or toxic materials | ✗ Plastic |
| ✗ Chemicals | ✗ Commercial landscaping waste | |
| ✗ Motor Oil | ✗ Leaf and grass clippings | |

***Burning in a barrel is PROHIBITED at all times.

Why are Open Burn Bans Issued?

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| ⊖ Weather | ⊖ Air Quality | ⊖ Public Safety |
| -High Wind Warnings | -Western Slope Airwatch Alerts | -Mesa County Sheriff's Office Burn Bans |
| -Red Flag Warnings | -Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment Air Quality Action Days | |
| -Fire Weather Watch | | |

How do I get a permit?

1. Apply online at www.health.mesacounty.us or contact Mesa County Public Health at (970) 248-6900.
 - a. Residents who need assistance using the online system or don't have access to a computer or an internet connection, can still apply for an Open Burn Permit in person at Mesa County Public Health, 510 29 ½ Road in Grand Junction, or at Lower Valley Fire District, 166 N Mesa St. in Fruita.

Public computers are also available at Mesa County
 - b. Libraries locations for individuals who need computer access to apply for a burn permit. Printouts from library computers cost 15 cents per page.
2. Carefully read the conditions of the permit and agree to follow the rules for Open Burning.
3. Print a copy of your permit and ensure it's available on site of the burn.
4. Follow the instructions on the permit.

Click [here](#) to leave this website and be redirected to apply for your Agricultural Burn Permit.