

Guide to Burning

in Mesa County



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

Table of Contents

Why is burning regulated?.....	pg. 2
Which permit do I need?.....	pg. 2
When can I burn?.....	pg. 3
What can I burn?.....	pg. 3
What can't I burn?.....	pg. 3
Why are Open Burn Bans issued?.....	pg. 4
How do I get a permit?.....	pg. 4

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 for a single-season permit OR \$20 for a dual-season permit.
- b. Residents can choose which permit they would like to purchase, but a valid permit must be obtained before open burning.

3. City of Grand Junction Permit

- a. If your property is within Grand Junction City limits, 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
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What can't I burn?

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| ✗ Trash | ✗ Treated wood or pallets | ✗ Insulation |
| ✗ Tree stumps | ✗ Contruction 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

- High Wind Warnings
- Red Flag Warnings
- Fire Weather Watch

⊘ Air Quality

- Western Slope Airwatch Alerts
- Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment Air Quality Action Days

⊘ Public Safety

- Mesa County Sheriff's Office Burn Bans

How do I get a permit?

1.

Apply online at www.health.mesacounty.us or contact Mesa County Public Health at (970) 248-6900.

- 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

- 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 a secure payment site to fill out your application and purchase your Open Burn Permit.