



## OUTDOOR BURNING INFORMATION & OPTIONS FOR CLEAN AIR

Kelowna, Peachland, Lake Country, West Kelowna  
& all areas of the Regional District of Central Okanagan

**Our community cares about clean air. Outdoor burning regulations provide residents greater protection from the impact of concentrated smoke.**

**Important:** Outdoor burning may only occur with a special permit from your local fire department. Only those residents that have properties greater than 1 hectare (2.47 acres) are eligible to apply for an outdoor burning permit within the Central Okanagan. Outdoor burning may only occur when Air Quality and Venting conditions are rated “good”.

### Burning Season

Permits for outdoor burning may be available between October 1<sup>st</sup> and April 30; however, due to possible hazardous conditions these dates may change.

### Outdoor Burning Hotline

If you have a valid permit, you may call the hotline to determine if outdoor burning is allowed on that particular day. Simply call Environment Canada’s information line at: 250-470-5155, then the prompts: Select 1, then 2.

### Permits Required

Anyone who conducts outdoor burning requires a valid permit from their local fire department. Please note that a site inspection may be required as part of the permit process. To obtain a permit please contact the applicable authority for your area:

- City of Kelowna, call the Kelowna Fire Department at 250-469-8801
- District of West Kelowna, call West Kelowna Fire Rescue at 250-769-1640
- District of Lake Country, call the Lake Country Fire Department at 250-766-2327
- Municipality of Peachland, call the Peachland Fire Rescue Service at 250-767-2841
- Residents living within a Fire Department Service Area in either the Central Okanagan West or Okanagan East Electoral Areas (North Westside, Ellison, Joe Rich, Wilson’s Landing, Traders Cove), please call the Regional District of Central Okanagan at 250-469-6223 (Monday to Friday excluding holidays, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm). North Westside residents may call ‘Collect’ or at no charge by cellular phone.

## Fines

If you are caught without a Burning Permit or breaking the rules of your permit you may be fined or charged for the cost of the Fire Call or the cost of putting out the fire.

## Alternatives to Burning

Agriculturists and residents are encouraged to take advantage of other options such as flail mowing, chipping or air curtain burning.

## Good Burning Practices

- Call the Hotline to make sure burning is permitted on that day. Phone 250-470-5155, then the prompts: Select 1, then 2.
- Stumps and branches over 8" in diameter must be dried for a minimum of two years in accordance with local bylaws.
- Burning should not start until 10:00am, since weather conditions are usually poor for venting smoke away from the earth's surface before that time.
- Ensure to dry prunings and small branches before burning.
- Make smaller piles, with good air ventilation for efficient burning.
- Check wind direction to keep smoke away from neighbours.

**Air Curtain Burning** utilizes forced air to burn wood faster and with less smoke. Contact your local Fire Dept. to learn more about forced air incineration options for burning agricultural or land clearing wood waste.

## Free Agricultural Chipping Program

The Regional District of Central Okanagan is offering a free program in 2009/10 for Central Okanagan orchardists who want to chip wood waste material that has come from an orchard removal. This type of debris typically includes stumps and branches. Call Air Quality Coordinator Nicole Marzinik (250-469-8408) to register for this program.

## Wood Grinding Companies

The following companies grind stumps, whole trees and other wood wastes:

**Huska Holdings: 250 762-4028**

**AB Contracting: 250 398-0440**

**EVS Wood Reduction: 250 768-0608**

## Portable Chipper Rentals

Wood chippers that can chip branches up to 6" or 12" in diameter are available from several local rental companies. These chippers are portable so they can be towed behind your vehicle.



**Mainline Rent-All (12") 250 860-3510**

**Mark Turton (12"): 250 878-3111**

**Westside Rentals (6") 250 769-7606**

## Tree Service Contractors

There are several companies you can hire to chip wood waste material. Please check the Yellow Pages of the phone book under “Tree Service”.

## Compost at Landfills

Yard waste and prunings (under 8” diameter) weighing less than 250 kg (550 lb) can be dropped off at the Westside or Glenmore Landfills for free. Loads weighing more than 250 kg will be charged \$25.00/tonne. Prunings can be dropped off for free at the Peachland Compost Site.

## Fall Curbside Yard Waste Pickup

Consult the Regional Waste Reduction Office Living Greener Calendar or the Yard Waste pages on the Regional District website. Bi-weekly curbside collection runs March through November. Call the Regional Waste Reduction Office at 250-469-6250.

**For more information, contact the Regional Air Quality Program; a joint program of the Regional District of Central Okanagan, City of Kelowna, and Districts of Peachland, West Kelowna and Lake Country.**

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