

# WILSON COUNTY OUTDOOR BURN PROCEDURES DURING A BURN BAN

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August 13, 2012

**ALL BURNING MUST BE DONE IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF WILSON COUNTY (NOT WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF ANY MUNICIPALITY).**

**All burns must follow the TCEQ Outdoor Burn Regulations for Texas.**

All burns other than these **Exceptions (Firefighter Training, Fires for Cooking, and Domestic Waste Burning)** must be permitted through the Wilson County Health & Public Safety Office.

## **Exceptions:**

- **Firefighter Training** must be done by a Fire Department.
- **Domestic waste**—in other words, household trash or rubbish—may be burned. To qualify for this exception, the waste must
  - Come from a property that is
    - (1) designed to be a private residence and
    - (2) used exclusively as a private residence for no more than three families.
  - Be burned on the property where it was produced. For example, kitchen garbage, untreated lumber, cardboard boxes, packaging, clothing, grass, leaves, and branch trimmings.
  - Be burned in a barrel with a means of controlling sparks and embers from leaving the barrel (screen or grate), with a way of controlling and keeping the fire from spreading and
  - Be monitored during burning by an adult with a means of extinguishing the fire.
- **Cooking Fires** should be done using caution, with a way of controlling and keeping the fire from spreading and monitored during burning by an adult with a means of extinguishing the fire.

And other burns as required by the Outdoor Burning Regulations of Texas

***All other burns will be subjected to the permitting process.***

## **To receive a permit to burn:**

Call the Wilson County Health & Public Safety Office at (830) 393-8503 during normal business hours (8 AM -1200 noon and 1 PM - 5 PM) on the day you would like to burn.

Weekends and/or Holidays burn permits must be obtained on the day before the Weekend and/or Holiday between 1:30 PM and 4:30 PM. (The Fire Weather Forecast

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Information by the National Weather Service for weekends is posted between 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM).

## **Before a burn permit is issued this information is required:**

- Who:** What is the Name of the responsible party doing the burn and a phone number at the burn site where the responsible party can be reached.
- What:** What you are burning.
- Where:** What is the Address where the burn is being done.
- When:** What Time are you going to burn?
- How:** How are you going to control the fire and keep it from spreading?

## **Requirements**

- Begin burning no earlier than one hour after sunrise and no later than one hour before sunset
- Burning must end the same day
- A responsible party must be present while the burn is active and the fire is progressing.
- Winds must be from 6 to 23 mph during the burn period.
- Burning during temperature inversions or air stagnation advisories is prohibited.
- Begin or continue burning only when wind direction and other weather conditions are such that smoke and other pollutants will not present a hazard to any public road, landing strip, or navigable water (e.g. lake, river, stream or bay) or have an adverse effect on any off-site structure containing "sensitive receptors."
- Post someone to flag traffic if at any time the burning causes or may tend to cause smoke to blow onto or across a road or highway.
- Keep fires downwind of, or at least 300 feet (90 meters) away, from any neighboring structure that contains sensitive receptors. *This requirement may be waived only with the prior written approval of whoever owns or rents the adjacent property and either resides or conducts business there.*