

Instructions filling out Navajo Nation EPA Open Burn Permit Application

Notice: TO BE FILLED OUT BY APPLICANT AT LEAST FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AND NO EARLIER THAN TWENTY BUSINESS DAYS BEFORE THE OPEN BURN IS TO OCCUR (PLEASE PRINT)

This section requires personal information:

The person requesting the permit may also be the same person in charge of open burn

Mailing address of person requesting open burn or in charge of open burn, City or Town and Zip Code

Phone number in the event you need to be contacted; Business, Home, and/or Mobile

Physical Address or description of location where burn will occur:

Miles/Direction from Chapter House, School, Church, Business, major land marks, and Miles/Direction and road number along State, County, Navajo Route, Farm Road, Rural address number, Housing Number, Street Address, Farm Plot Number, description and color of house.

Please provide the following additional information:

1. Type and quantity of materials proposed to be burned (OBR § 303 (C) (4)):

§ 303. Permit Application, (C) The Open Burn Permit application must contain the following; (4) the type and quantity of materials proposed to be burned. Weeds, slash, and other than prohibited materials, read permit conditions; No. 3, Page 2 of 3 of permit application.

2. The requested date and duration of the proposed open burn (OBR § 303 (C) (6)):

To be filled out by applicant at least five business days and no earlier than twenty business days before open burn is to occur. Duration is time required to burn materials and large quantities may require separating into smaller piles. Please check metrological forecast in advance for high winds greater than 20 MPH. Pre-Planning required because permits will be issued for more NO than 10 days and high winds greater than 20 MPH.

3. A description of measures to be taken to prevent escaped burns, including but not limited to the availability of water (OBR § 303 (C)(5)):

Notification of local Fire Department, water truck, fire equister, shovels, rakes, picks, first aid kit, escapes paths/routes, Safety First to protect human health, lives, Property, and prevent wildfires.

4. Please attach to this application a plan (map) showing the location of the proposed open burn in relation to property lines and distances to residential and commercial properties (OBR § 303 (C)(3)):

A Digital or hand drawn map showing highways, roads, North arrow, water ways, utility lines (electrical) property lines and distance to nearest homes and business.

Permit Conditions: 8. Other

Open Burning before 8 AM and after 5 PM and Weekends; Events such as Community Clean up, Earth Day, Promotional events including cultural and Traditional Practices.

Permit Conditions for Open Burning of House waste Only:

Open burning of trash generated by a single family, less than four dwelling units, and is burn at the residential site with an approved permit. ONLY applies if there is no disposal or collection service within 10 miles.

Need assistance filling out application? Please call Navajo Nation EPA Air Quality Program at 928-729-4246.



NAVAJO NATION EPA OPEN BURN PERMIT APPLICATION



Pursuant to Subpart III of the Navajo Nation EPA Open Burning Regulations (OBR)

TO BE FILLED OUT BY APPLICANT AT LEAST FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AND NO EARLIER THAN TWENTY BUSINESS DAYS BEFORE THE OPEN BURN IS TO OCCUR (please print):

According to Open Burning Regulations § 203(A)(2) and (3), outdoor fires set for cultural or traditional purposes, including within structures such as hogans and sweat houses, do not require a permit. All that is required is for a person who intends to have a cultural or traditional fire is to first register with the Air Quality Control Program.

Name of Person Requesting Open Burn

Name of Person in Charge of Open Burn

Signature of Person Requesting Open Burn

Signature of Person in Charge of Open Burn

Address of Person Requesting Open Burn

Address of Person in Charge of Open Burn

Town / Zip Code

Town / Zip Code

Phone Number

Phone Number

Physical Address or Description of Location Where Burn Will Occur: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. The type and quantity of materials proposed to be burned (OBR § 303(C)(4)):

2. The requested date and duration of the proposed open burn (OBR § 303(C)(6)):

3. A description of measures to be taken to prevent escaped burns, including but not limited to the availability of water (OBR § 303(C)(5)):

4. Please attach to this application a plan (map) showing the location of the proposed open burn in relation to property lines and distances to residential and commercial properties (OBR § 303(C)(3)).

Permit Conditions:

1. All material shall be kept as dry as possible through use of a cover or storage.
2. Before initiating an open burn, non-combustibles shall be separated from the materials to be openly burned to the greatest extent practical.
3. The following material shall not be burned: household waste, except as specifically permitted pursuant to OBR § 202(B); junked motor vehicles or salvaged materials; tires or other rubber materials; plastics, plastic products, or Styrofoam; asphalt or composition roofing; tar, tarpaper, petroleum products or paints; paper, paper products, or cardboard other than what is necessary to start a fire or that is generated at single-family residences or residential buildings with four or fewer dwelling units and is burned at the residential site; lumber or timbers treated with preservatives; construction debris or demolition waste; pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers or other chemicals; insulated wire; batteries; light bulbs;

material containing mercury; asbestos or asbestos-containing materials; pathogenic wastes; hazardous wastes; manure; and any material other than natural vegetation that normally emits dense smoke or noxious fumes when burned.

4. Natural or artificially induced draft shall be present, including blowers or air curtain incinerators where practicable.
5. Materials to be openly burned shall be separated from the grass or peat layer.
6. A fire shall not be allowed to smolder.
7. Open burning must take place between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The applicant may request the Navajo Nation EPA for permission to conduct open burning outside of these hours by attaching a written request and the reasons for that request to this application. If the request is approved it will be indicated in item 8 below.
8. OTHER: _____

Permit Conditions for Open Burning of Household Waste Only:

1. An Open Burn Permit for household waste shall have a three-year term.
2. An Open Burn Permit for household waste shall be valid only for the person and at the location described in the permit and is non-transferrable.
3. An Open Burn Permit for household waste shall become void if the person who was issued the permit moves to another location.
4. At the end of any three-year term, an Open Burn Permit for household waste may be renewed for another three years upon the submission and approval of a new application and payment of the \$10 application fee.
5. All other Open Burn Permit conditions apply.

I acknowledge I have read these conditions and agree to abide by them.

Signature of Person in Charge of Open Burn

Date

Please return this application, together with a \$5 application fee (\$10 for an application for the open burning of household waste) to the Navajo Nation EPA Air Quality Control Program at Fort Defiance: Building #F-004-051, Route 12N, P.O. Box 529, Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504.

OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE APPLICATION APPROVED: _____

APPLICATION APPROVED BY: _____

OPEN BURN PERMIT NO: _____

PERMIT FOR OPEN BURNING OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE: YES NO

IF YES, PERMIT WILL EXPIRE ON: _____ (Three years after permit issuance.)

AIR & YOUR HEALTH

You could go without food for days and hours without water but you would last only minutes without air

What is Open Burning ?

Open Burning occurs when you burn anything outside. Open burning of trash in 55 gallon barrels or in piles in backyards and in arroyo or ditches is a common way of solid waste disposal on the Navajo Nation. Burning of weeds/slash in back yards and along roads. Burning of under brush in forest to prevent wildfires. Flaring of gas and oil to avoid safety hazards.

How does Open Burning affect public Health ?

On average each of us breath 3000 gallons of air each day. Burning trash produces smoke when inhaled the fine particles in the smoke can cause respiratory problems, coughs, headaches, running nose, burning eyes, and physical discomfort. It can aggravate existing problems such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and long term exposure can damage your kidney, liver, and other organs.

These chemicals such as dioxins and other pollutants are dangerous and harmful to your health, crops, animals, water sources, property, economy.

Restriction on Open Burning during NN Order of Fire Restriction

No outside fire for residential heating and cooking

Cultural and Traditional purposes, registration only

No Recreational campfires

No agricultural burning of weeds and brush

See NN Order of Fire Restriction, No permits issued until Order has been lifted

Why I should not burn trash in my backyard?

Be a good neighbor. Based on a national survey of waste generation rate a person generates 3.31 pounds per day and a lot of that waste is NOT disposed of properly. Backyard burning of household waste produces more dioxin than a modern municipal incinerators. Uncontrolled fires can damage property even loss of lives.

What I need to know about the ash?

Ashes from Open Burning of Household waste contain pollutants that can blow into food crops, livestock water sources, and children can accidentally swallow dirt ash while playing near ash piles.

When is Open Burning a violation?

Burning anything outside without a Permit

Not following conditions in the issued permit and burning anything such as tires, plastic, treated wood, and other prohibited materials

Burning household waste and trash when there is a solid waste facility within 10 miles

What choices do I have NOT to burn trash

REDUCE. use durable, long-lasting goods, avoid disposal items

RECYCLE. plastic, paper, aluminum, metal, etc.

REUSE. repair, sell, donate,

COMPOST. yard trimming, food scraps makes natural fertilizer

PROPER DISPOSAL. Take trash to Solid Waste Facility



Residents may contact Navajo EPA:

Air Quality Control & Operating Permit Program

Navajo Route 112 North Bldg. 2427

P.O. Box 529 Fort Defiance , Arizona 86504

Telephone: (928) 729-4246; Fax: (928) 729-4323

Website: www.navajonationepa.org/airquality.html

Email: airquality@navajo-nsn.gov



Prohibited Materials, OBR § 202(A)

- Household waste, unless a permit has been obtained. According to OBR § 202(B), such permit will not be granted when there is a collection or disposal service within 10 miles of the home, farm, camp, or ranch.
- Junked motor vehicles or salvaged materials; tires or rubber materials.
- Plastics, plastic products, or Styrofoam.
- Asphalt or composition roofing; tar, tarpaper, petroleum products, or paints.
- Paper, paper products, or cardboard other than what is necessary to start a fire.
- Treated wood, construction debris, or demolition waste.
- Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, or other chemicals.
- Insulated wire, batteries, or light bulbs.
- Materials containing mercury or asbestos.
- Pathogenic or hazardous wastes; manure.
- Any material other than natural vegetation that normally emits dense smoke or noxious fumes when burned.

Household Waste, OBR § 202(B)

A person may engage in the open burning of household waste, with a permit, under these two conditions only:

The waste is generated on site on a farm, camp, or ranch of at least 40 acres, there is no collection or disposal service within 10 miles, and the Director has approved the waste burner to be used; or

The waste is generated on site at a single-family residence or a residential building with no more than 4 units, there is no collection or disposal service within 10 miles, and the open burning is at least 300 feet away from places where other people live, work, or congregate.

Permit Process, OBR §§ 303-304

1. An Open Burn Permit application is submitted for each proposed burn, together with a \$5 application fee. A multiple-use permit for burning household waste costs \$10 and is valid for 3 years.
2. The Director of Navajo Nation EPA reviews the application for completeness, generally within one business day of receipt.
3. The application is posted the following business day on the Air Quality Control Program's ("AQCP's") website, along with the proposed grant or denial of the permit and any special conditions for the permit. These materials will also be posted at the AQCP office in Fort Defiance.
4. Members of the public may comment on the proposed permit within the next two business days by emailing nnepanilchi@navajo.org or by submitting comments in writing to the AQCP office in Fort Defiance.
5. The Director will consider comments and take final action on the Open Burn Permit by the fifth business day following the completeness determination. The final action and any response will be posted on the AQCP website.
6. The permit is effective immediately upon posting.
7. Any person challenging the permit issuance or denial may do so in the Navajo Nation Window Rock District Court, provided that s/he properly commented on the proposed permit.

Penalties, OBR §§ 501-505

There are penalties for failing to obtain an Open Burn Permit and to follow permit conditions. The Director of Navajo Nation EPA may issue field citations. Administrative hearings and judicial review are available.

Understanding the Open Burn Permit

*Navajo Nation
Environmental Protection Agency*

Navajo Nation
Air Quality Control Program



Rt. 112 North / Building 2427
P.O. Box 529
Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Phone: (928) 729-4246
Fax: (928) 729-4323

Website: www.navajonationepa.org/airquality

E-Mail: airquality@navajo-nsn.gov



What is Open Burning?

The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (“Navajo Nation EPA”) defines open burning as “a burn or burning of material that results in the products of combustion being emitted directly into the atmosphere without controls, such as passing through a stack.” Open Burning Regulations (“OBR”) § 102(H). Open Burning is prohibited within the Navajo Nation unless the Open Burning is an exempt activity or a permit has been obtained before the Open Burning takes place. OBR § 201.

Why is Open Burning Prohibited?

When Open Burning takes place, harmful pollutants are released that may damage the environment and your health. Exposure to these pollutants can lead to breathing problems and asthma attacks. Open Burning also causes particulate pollution, which means that small particles of dust, metals, and other harmful materials are floating in the air and may accumulate in your respiratory system.

What is the Purpose of the OBR?

The OBR are intended to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of all residents of the Navajo Nation, as well as the political integrity, economic security, and environment of the Navajo Nation. These regulations discourage open burning disposal practices where alternative methods are feasible and practicable. These regulations apply to all persons and all property within the Navajo Nation, as defined in 7 N.N.C. § 254.

NN Order of Fire Restriction.

No permits issued during Order of Fire Restriction.

What are Health Effects of Open Burning?

The smoke from Open Burning activities has many pollutants, and these enter into the air we breathe. The pollutants include volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”), particulate matter, and carbon monoxide.

Inhaling certain VOCs can lead to . . .

- irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat;
- headaches;
- loss of coordination;
- nausea; and
- damage to the liver, kidneys, and central nervous system.



Particulate Matter can . . .

- heighten symptoms of asthma and bronchitis;
- and has also been associated with heart attacks.
- The elderly, children, and people with heart or lung disease are at highest risk from exposure to particulate matter in the air.

Ash residue can . . .

- contain poisonous metals such as mercury, lead, arsenic, and chromium;
- be toxic when ingested; and
- pose a high risk to children who play outside near ash piles.

Carbon Monoxide can . . .

- in mild poisoning, have symptoms of lightheadedness, confusion, headaches, vertigo, and flu-like effects;
- lead to significant toxicity of the central nervous system, heart, and cause death; and
- have severe effects on a woman’s fetus.

What are the Exceptions from the OBR?

Pursuant to the OBR § 203(A), Navajo Nation EPA exempts the following activities from obtaining an Open Burning Permit:

- residential fires for heating or cooking;
- outdoor fires set for cultural or traditional purposes and fires set for cultural or traditional purposes within structures such as hogans and sweat houses;
- agricultural burning for disease or pest control, crop rotation or propagation, or livestock branding, provided that no temporary burn ban is in effect that would apply to this activity.
- Outdoor fires set for recreational purposes, provided that no prohibited materials are burned and that no temporary burn ban is in effect.
- Forestry burning, including fires used to train firefighters, provided that no prohibited materials are burned and that no temporary burn ban is in effect that would apply to this activity.
- Flaring of natural gas at oil and gas wells to avoid a safety hazard, provided that no temporary burn ban is in effect.
- The disposal of deceased animals or other material by order of a public health official, except when a temporary burn ban is in effect.

