Chesterfield Fire and EMS
Fire and Life Safety Division - Fire Marshal's Office

P.O. Box 40 Chesterfield, VA 23832 Phone (804) 748-1426 Fax (804) 768-8766

OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS FOR TREE AND GARDEN TRIMMINGS– 30 Day Permit/BON FIRES-One Day Permit

1. Open burning does not exempt or excuse a person from the consequences, damages or injuries which may result from such conduct, nor does it excuse or exempt any person from complying with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and orders of the federal government, Commonwealth of Virginia and/or Chesterfield County.

2. Burning of the following is **prohibited**:
   a. Toxic or hazardous materials or containers for such materials.
   b. Rubber tires, asphaltic material, crankcase oil, impregnated wood, or similar materials.
   c. Paper, used lumber or trade waste.
   d. Building and/or demolition material.
   e. Household/commercial trash or refuse.

3. **A "written permit" is required** for the open burning of tree and/or garden trimmings.
   a. The permit application shall be submitted at least **15 days** before the desired burn date.
   b. The permit will be valid for **30 days; limited to two permits per burn season per address. Burn season is October through April.**
   c. **Open burning is prohibited by State law during May, June, July, August and September.**
   d. **An application with all the required permissions shall be submitted for each permit requested**
   e. **Thirty (30) day permits are NOT renewable.**
   f. Only one pile shall be burned at a time and shall not **exceed** the 6' x 8' x 4' size.
   g. The location of the burning shall be a minimum of 300 feet from any occupied building unless the occupants have given prior **written** permission.
   h. All permitted fires shall be at least 50 feet from any building and/or structure, to include combustible fencing.
   i. The burning shall take place on the premises of the private property from which the trimmings were taken.

4. **Campfires, warming fires and ceremonial bonfires** are allowed if the fuel is clean wood, no trash, construction debris, oil, tires, etc. A "**written permit"** is recommended for bonfires**.** Contact the Fire and Life Safety Division for details.

5. The burning of limbs, tree trunks, logs or stumps is considered Property Maintenance or Land Clearing and is not allowed under the conditions of a 30-day permit. Contact the Fire and Life Safety Division for details.

6. **The burning of leaves** is allowed **in designated areas** of the county during two time periods each year. A permit is NOT required. It is lawful to burn leaves on your own property, if in an allowed area, during the periods of March 15 to April 15, from 4:00 p.m. to midnight, Monday through Thursday and from November 15 to December 15 from 8:00 a.m. on Monday to noon on Friday. Contact the Fire & Life Safety Division for areas where burning of leaves is **not** permitted.

7. **The following applies to <u>ALL</u> open burning in Chesterfield County:**
   a. **Fires shall be constantly attended** by a competent person until extinguished and no longer smoldering.
   b. The attendee shall provide adequate fire extinguishing equipment to control and/or extinguish the fire should it start to spread or get out of control.
   c. The Virginia Division of Forestry requires that any open burning from February 15 through April 30 of each year, within 300 feet of woodland, brushland, or field containing dry grass or other combustible material leading to woodland, be done between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.
8. **Failure to comply with the above conditions will constitute a violation of the law, which will result in possible legal action.**

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APPLICATION FOR OPEN BURNING PERMIT

Application must be printed or typed - Incomplete forms will NOT be processed

Applicant Name _____ Date _____

Complete - Mailing address _____

Email Address _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____ Fax _____

Name of person/contractor conducting burn _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____ Fax _____

Street address of burn site _____

Location of burn site on property _____

Purpose of Burn: ☐ Land Clearing/Property Maintenance Land Disturbance Permit #_____

☐ Tree or Garden Trimmings

☐ Bon Fire Date for Bon Fire:_____

Description of material to be burned _____

Is material currently piled up? Yes ☐ No ☐ Is any burn material being brought from another site? Yes ☐ No ☐

On site means of extinguishment ☐ Garden hose & hand tools ☐ Fire Extinguisher ☐ Heavy Equipment

☐ Other _____

How would you like to receive your permit? ☐ Mail ☐ Fax ☐ Will pickup ☐ Email

By submitting this application you have read and agreed to conduct this burn in accordance with the regulations described on the attached page and the Statewide Fire Prevention Code. Furthermore, you understand that failure to follow the regulations will result in the suspension of the permit, issuance of a summons or both. I agree ☐

Name of Responsible Party _____

Date _____

Office Use Only

****

Date Received _____ Received by _____ Date Permit sent _____ Reviewed by _____

Permit Fee Paid ☐ Site Visit ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ Approved ☐ Denied

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PERMISSION TO BURN FROM NEIGHBORS

Use this form for your neighbor to sign only if they are within 300' or 500' of your burn site (depending on type of burn) Use back of page if you need more room

I, _____, am applying for a burn permit from the
Applicants Name
Chesterfield Fire and EMS, Fire and Life Safety Division, 748-1426, to burn:
(applicant check one)

☐ Land-clearing/property maintenance (500 feet)

☐ Tree/garden trimmings (300 feet)

The ordinance, which regulates open burning in Chesterfield County, prohibits burning within 500 feet (for land clearing/property maintenance) and 300 feet (for tree/garden trimmings) of any occupied building, **unless** the occupants have given prior written permission to do so.

To satisfy this requirement, I request your permission to conduct a control burn at _____

_____.
Applicants Address

The control burning will be attended at all times and equipment will be on site to control and/or extinguish the fire should it become necessary.

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL NEIGHBORS WITHIN 300'/500'

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____

(continued on other side)

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____

Date: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____Telephone: _____

Permission **DENIED**: ____ **GRANTED**: ____ Permission granted with following conditions:

_____