



# Be A Good Neighbour Burn Clean, Burn Smart

Be considerate of your neighbours so you do not create noxious smoke coming from your fire. Every resident who obtains a permit is entitled to burn providing they abide by the bylaw requirements. Below is an excerpt from the Fire Prevention and Regulation Bylaw 1085.



All smoke complaints will be thoroughly investigated and all violators will be educated on the bylaw requirements, then progressively penalized through municipal tickets, restricting their days of burning and or revoking their permits if warranted by the Fire Chief.

## **Bylaw 1085**

23. *No person shall cause or allow the emission of smoke from any solid fuel burning device, incinerator or any open fire for a period or periods aggregating more than 3 minutes in any one hour of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view of the background through the smoke to a degree of greater than 20%. This shall not apply to smoke emitted during the 20 minute period following the ignition of the fire or smoke emitted during a 6 minute period after a fire is restoked with fuel.*

## **TIPS FOR SAFE OUTDOOR DEBRIS BURNING**

### **Burning Material**

A list of prohibited materials is provided at the end of this page which are not permitted to be burnt. Prevent material from becoming wet by covering with a tarp or other cover in the late summer before the season has opened and during periods of rain in the burning season to reduce the amount of smoke.

### **Starting the Fire**

Start all fires small and add to them allowing the fire to create heat and a bed of coals. This allows the fire to burn without producing large amounts of smoke that spreads throughout the community. Apart from first lighting the fire or when the fire is re-stoked, make sure the fire will burn as hot as possible with good combustion and create the least amount of smoke.

### **Maintaining a Hot - Smoke Free Fire**

Introducing air into the fire will help to make it hot and reduce smoke. One good way is to safely use a leaf blower on a low speed directed at the base of the fire. Check to see if weather changes are expected. Postpone outdoor burning if shifts in wind direction, high winds, or wind gusts are forecast.

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## Good Ventilation Days

The Ventilation index provided by Environment Canada can be found on the North Saanich website under Emergency Services, then click on venting index. [www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca). The venting index is refreshed daily so it is always current from 7:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. that calendar day. The next day “tomorrow” is an estimation of what it could be. When the venting index is “Good”, the smoke will travel straight up. These are the best days for burning. When it is “fair or poor” the smoke will find the low areas in the surrounding neighbourhood and become a health hazard to those who already have breathing difficulties. Being a good neighbour means you recognize these conditions and you just adjust your burning days accordingly.

COAST				TODAY				TOMORROW			
7:00 AM		4:00 PM		4:00 PM		4:00 PM					
VI	WND	MXG HT	VI	WND	MXG HT	VI	WND	MXG HT			
KM/H	M		KM/H	M		KM/H	M				
VANCOUVER		11/POOR	3	120	13/POOR	4	167	16/POOR	8	171	
FRASER VALLEY		14/POOR	20	99	17/POOR	10	198	14/POOR	7	182	
SQUAMISH		11/POOR	14	79	15/POOR	11	146	12/POOR	11	106	
<b>SRN VAN ISLD</b>		<b>25/POOR</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>17/POOR</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>19/POOR</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>235</b>	
CNTRL VAN ISLD		12/POOR	7	104	13/POOR	4	219	15/POOR	6	211	
NRN VAN ISLD		10/POOR	14	41	12/POOR	5	134	11/POOR	3	125	
TERRACE		9/POOR	2	238	9/POOR	2	257	10/POOR	2	262	
STEWART		9/POOR	2	12	9/POOR	2	12	10/POOR	6	32	

## Other Safety Tips:

- Stay with all outdoor fires until they are completely extinguished;
- Keep water and hand tools ready in case your fire should attempt to spread;
- Be aware of wildfire danger levels and adhere to warnings and bans on outdoor burning. Careless debris burning is a major cause of wildland fires in British Columbia. Everyone needs to cooperate and exercise extreme caution with all potential sources of wildfire ignition, preventing senseless and potentially deadly wildfires.

## PROHIBITED BURNING MATERIALS

The following materials are prohibited from being burned in any solid fuel-burning device, domestic incinerator, or in an open outdoor fire.

Asphalt Products	Biomedical Waste	All Leaves	Domestic Waste
Drywall	Flammable Liquids	Fuel & Lubricant Containers	Manure
Paint Products	All Plastics	Mattresses & Couches	Rubber Materials
Green Grass	Tar Paper	Tires	Treated Lumber

If you require any further information on the burning regulations in the District of North Saanich, such as burn site areas or incinerator inspections, please do not hesitate to call the Fire Department 250-656-1931, Monday to Friday from 8:00 – 4:30 or visit our website at:

[www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca)

