



# Agricultural Burning Permit: Application for Field Burning

*(This application is not for orchard tear-out)*

For Official Use Only

Permit #

Zone:

## Do you need an agricultural burn permit?

All commercial agricultural operations must get a permit before burning natural vegetation, except when burning orchard pruning, natural vegetation along fence lines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must notify your fire protection authority and/or dispatch (check with specific county) prior to igniting any fire, even if an air quality permit is not required. You must also call the burn hotline (1-800-633-0709 or 360-574-3058) to make sure it is a burn day.

## What is a Commercial Agricultural Operation?

The agricultural burning regulation (WAC 173-430) defines a commercial agricultural operation as a farmer who is practicing agriculture for commercial purposes and has filed an IRS schedule F form or its corporate equivalent.

## Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Agricultural burning is allowed when it is reasonably necessary to carry out the enterprise. A grower can show that burning is reasonably necessary when it meets the criteria of the BMPs and no practical alternative exists. BMPs are one of the ways to demonstrate the need to burn. Growers not using these BMPs must establish that their proposed burn is reasonably necessary and that no practical alternative is available. The burden of proof is on the grower, and the demonstration must satisfy Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA).

## Completing the application

1. Fill out the information requested on the following pages. ***The application must be completed and signed; otherwise, this will be an incomplete application. The permit may be denied if all information is not provided.***
2. Attach a map of the acreage you are proposing to burn with the outline clearly marked. **The map must include Section lines and roads, as well as Township and Range coordinates.** Hand drawn maps are acceptable if they meet the above requirements. (The NRCS farm plan aerial photo maps, FSA aerial photos, or USGS 7.5 minutes maps are good for this purpose.)
3. Attach documentation of the management history and the future management plan of the area you are requesting to burn.
4. Calculate total acres and the fee in the space provided. **\*Minimum fee is \$37.50**
5. Sign and date the application.
6. Mail the application and check for the permit fee to the following address:

**Southwest Clean Air Agency  
11815 NE 99<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 1294  
Vancouver, WA 98682**

## What happens next?

SWCAA will evaluate your application and determine if you have demonstrated that burning is necessary to carry out your enterprise and that no practical alternatives exist. SWCAA will then act on a **completed** application within seven (7) days and will either send you a permit or a written explanation as to why the application was denied.

Your permit, if issued, will be valid for either Spring Season (January 1- June 30) or Fall Season (July 1- December 31).

*This page may be used for additional information or suggestions for improvements of the permit application.*

## *Applicant Information*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Shop Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person (if other than applicant): \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the applicant the operator for the fields this application applies to burn? Yes  No

## *Applicant Statement*

Permit applicants are required to follow and obey all applicable provisions of the Washington Clean Air Act, Chapter 70.94 RCW and Chapter 173-430 WAC, Agricultural Burning. The Applicant, if granted a permit, agrees to comply with the following conditions and any additional conditions contained in a permit or other application for permit:

- 1. If you are demonstrating necessity to burn by use of a Best Management Practice, you must certify that you have read and understand and will follow the Best Management Practices specific to this type of burning, that you believe the proposed burning is reasonably necessary, and that no practical alternative exists.**
- 2. You certify that you are a commercial agricultural operation as defined in Chapter 173-430 WAC.**
- 3. You agree to grant Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) access to the acreage listed on any agricultural burning permit, including those private roads or access ways under your control that are required to obtain access to the listed acreage for the purpose of investigating conditions specific to any agricultural burning permit issued by SWCAA. To the extent reasonable and consistent with carrying out the duties of the agricultural burning permitting program, you will be notified and given the option to accompany SWCAA when accessing your property.**

**I certify that the information provided as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have read, understand and agree to abide by the conditions above.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Field Burn Detail

BURN #	Burn Location – Field Name (i.e., Smith Place)	Fire District	Burn Zone (if applicable)	Expected Burn Dates (optional)	
				Start	End

### Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- Cereal Grain (choose 1 from Cereal Grain BMPs): Residue Mgmt. \_\_\_\_\_ Pest Mgmt. \_\_\_\_\_ Other (define) \_\_\_\_\_
- Non-Cereal (write number/ letter selection with title from the appropriate Non-Cereal BMPs): \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If no BMP is being used, the grower must state why the burning is necessary to carry out the enterprise and that no practical alternative is reasonably available. Provide reasoning on a separate sheet(s) and attach.

**Crop type** (be specific; use “spring wheat” instead of “wheat” or “stubble”) \_\_\_\_\_

# Acres to be burned: \_\_\_\_\_ Total acres in the field: \_\_\_\_\_ Irrigated? Yes  No

Average yield: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated average residue level: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the residue level been measured for the area you are applying to burn? Yes  No

- If yes, by whom, and what is the residue load? \_\_\_\_\_
- Does this represent: Entire Field \_\_\_\_\_ or Selected Spots \_\_\_\_\_

Has the applicant evaluated the field? Yes  No  If “no,” who evaluated the field? \_\_\_\_\_

If third party evaluation was done, attach a copy.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Field Burn Location

Provide section, township, and range for field or portions of a field to be burned for this burn only. (List each section within a township and range separately; for example, NW ¼ of the NW ¼ S 22 T 23N R 25.) See burn permit packet “How to Describe Your Burn Location.”

1/4 or 1/2	1/4 or 1/2	Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range
		Section	Township	Range

- Attach a map providing *specific* location of field or portions of field to be burned. Include clearly marked section, township, and range coordinates.

Specific driving directions from nearest town to burn location (required) and/or street address (if available):

\_\_\_\_\_

# *Documentation for Field Burn*

For crop harvested in the year: <small>(Fill in most recent year)</small>	Crop Harvested (crop type)	Was the residue from this crop burned?	
20		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
20		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
20		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
20		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Provide a detailed explanation as to why you believe burning is necessary (attach additional sheets if necessary).

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe future crop rotations and/or plans for future non-burning for the area where burning is being requested (attach additional sheets if necessary).

\_\_\_\_\_

Does this burn comply with conditions of your conservation plan?      Yes     No

Is the area to be burned land that has been chem.-fallowed?      Yes     No

**Farmers are required to meet NRCS minimum residue requirements before and after the burn.**

Describe your tillage/seeding plans following the burn.

\_\_\_\_\_

If you were not allowed to conduct this burn, what would you consider doing; and why are you not using those methods for this field?

\_\_\_\_\_

What alternatives have you tried?

\_\_\_\_\_

Does this burn enable you to transition into non-burning alternatives?      Yes     No     Explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

Is this the only field you are currently applying to burn?      Yes     No

- If yes: Proceed to page 6 for calculation of permit fee. You do not have to complete the Burn Summary page if you have only one field location.
- If no: You must complete a Field Burn Detail page (page 4) for each field you are applying to burn, attach it to this application, and summarize all fields on the following Burn Summary page.

