

*Alternatives to outdoor burning:
Composting, chipping and
recycling are viable alternatives
to outdoor burning that create a
resource instead of air pollution
and solid waste problems.*

Composting is an easy and inexpensive way to turn yard and garden refuse into a usable and valuable product. Compost turns organic matter like leaves, grass, weeds, and wood chips, into a rich soil conditioner.



Chipping brush, prunings, land-clearing debris and wood waste makes an excellent mulch or substitute for decorative bark. Chips can protect soil and help keep weeds at bay. They can also be used to line garden paths and trails or provide a softer landing under playground equipment.



Recycling/Reuse. Options are available in our area for wood and building scraps, pallets, cardboard and other paper products, and even some types of plastic. Contact the Lewis County Solid Waste Utility at (360) 740-1451 or 1-800-749-5980.



Transfer Station/Landfill. The Lewis County Solid Wastes Utility will accept organic waste for a reasonable fee. Call (360) 740-1481 or 1-800-749-5980 for more information and locations nearest you.

SWCAA PROGRAMS & SERVICES

SWCAA offers information and assistance to individuals, homeowners and businesses in the following areas:

Public Information & Education

Complaint Response & Enforcement

Outdoor Burning

Wood Stoves

Asbestos

Business Assistance

Air Operating Permits

New Source Permitting



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Rev. May 28, 2009

SOUTHWEST CLEAN AIR AGENCY

Outdoor Burning Information for Lewis County



LEWIS COUNTY BURN RULES

WAC 173-425 **bans** the use of a **burn barrel** and **prohibits** the burning of **all material**, except natural vegetation grown on the property and fire wood (defined as bare, untreated wood, not dimensional lumber). This regulation also prohibits burning during periods of impaired air quality and prohibits outdoor burning from becoming a nuisance to surrounding neighbors and businesses. Fire safety burn-bans may also be called by county or local fire protection authorities.

Burn Barrel Use Prohibited

The use of a **burn barrel** was **banned** in the State of Washington effective April 13, 2000. **Burning garbage** has been **illegal** in the State of Washington since 1967.

Recreational Fires

Recreational fires under 3'x3'x2' are still allowed in all of Lewis County without a permit. Only charcoal or seasoned firewood (no lumber) may be used as fuel for a recreational fire. Recreational fires must be used solely for recreational purposes and may not be used for disposal of yard debris or any other material. Recreational fires may not cause a smoke or odor nuisance to surrounding properties and are subject to burn bans. Recreational fires larger than 3'x3'x2' inside no burn areas need a written permit from SWCAA.

Agricultural Burning

To qualify for agricultural burning inside the no-burn boundaries you must have filed a Schedule F with your federal income tax. Orchard prunings alone do not qualify for an agricultural burn and other restrictions apply (WAC 173-430). Call SWCAA for detailed information, forms and possible fees.

Unincorporated Lewis County (Outside City Limits and Urban Growth Areas)

All burn piles, land clearing* and residential, in unincorporated Lewis County require a free permit from Lewis County Community Development. Pile size varies with seasonal restrictions as outlined in the Lewis County Open Burn Permit. Call Lewis County Community Development at (360) 740-1146 for more information or go to <http://burnpermit.lewiscountywa.gov> to download a free permit.

*Land clearing burning is prohibited in all areas of the state with a population density of $\geq 1,000$ people per square mile as of January 1, 2007.

Incorporated Lewis County (Inside City Limits or Urban Growth Areas)

After January 1, 2007: No burning, except recreational fires smaller than 3'x3'x2' (no lumber or yard debris) will be allowed inside incorporated cities or their Urban Growth Areas. Cities included in the **burn ban** are **Centralia, Chehalis, Morton, Mossyrock, Napavine, Pe Ell, Toledo, Vader and Winlock**. For more information call SWCAA at 1-800-633-0709.



Areas Where Burning Is Not Allowed

Effective January 1, 2001 WAC 173-425 prohibited outdoor burning in Urban Growth Areas with populations greater than 5,000. Prohibitions also applied to adjacent areas with a population density of 1,000 or more persons per square mile and areas with a reasonable alternative to burning. **As of January 1, 2007 urban growth areas with populations less than 5,000 also became no burn areas.**

Centralia/Chehalis and their surrounding Urban Growth Areas met the first of these criteria; therefore burning has been permanently banned since January 1, 2001 with the exception of recreational fires under 3'x3'x2', within the Urban Growth Areas of Centralia/Chehalis.

As of January 1, 2007, Morton, Mossyrock, Napavine, PeEll, Toledo, Vader, Winlock and their surrounding Urban Growth Areas became no burn areas, with the exception of recreational fires under 3'x3'x2' (no lumber, yard debris or garbage).

Land clearing burning was prohibited in all areas of the state with a population density of 1,000 or more persons per square mile as of January 1, 2007. These no-burn areas may change in the future as urban growth boundaries change. Call SWCAA at 1-800-633-0709 for more information.

Silvicultural Burning

For all silvicultural/forest practice burning call the Pacific Cascades Region of the Department of Natural Resources at (360) 577-2025. There is a permit fee.