



City of Virginia Beach

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
(757)-385-4228
FAX (757) 385-5676
TTY: 711

VBgov.com
MUNICIPAL CENTER
BUILDING 21
2408 COURTHOUSE DRIVE
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456-9065

Fire Prevention Pit Burning Requirements

A burning permit will be issued by the Fire Prevention Bureau for the destruction of land clearing debris ONLY provided the following guidelines are followed THROUGHOUT the entire burning activities:

- The applicant shall be responsible for informing all employees or anyone working at the burn site of all conditions, requirements and restrictions imposed by this office.
- The burning operation must involve an induced forced air apparatus which is capable of maintaining a "curtain" of air over the burning pit eliminating the release of smoke and ash. During fueling operations, all effort must be made to eliminate debris protruding through the air curtain. Upon the introduction of additional debris, the air curtain must be re-established within 3-5 minutes. The fire will be initiated through the use of small amounts of dry tinder and limited amounts of light grade fuel oil **ONLY**.
- The pit must be so constructed and the equipment so designed as to ensure a complete seal across the "mouth" of the pit thereby eliminating any continuous noticeable smoke or ash deployment from the fire pit.
- There shall be a minimum of **500** feet to the nearest building, roadway or wooded area.
- Adequate heavy equipment and trained operators must be available during burning operations to effectively extinguish the fire upon the order of the Fire Marshal. In the event of mechanical failure or automatic shut-down to the air inducing mechanism, the fire will be extinguished.
- The burning operation will be between the hours of 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM. No additional fuel will be added to the fire after 6:00 PM to allow the fire to self-extinguish. The air inducing fan will be in continuous operation until the fire is out. A PERMIT will be issued for only the amount of time requested (not to exceed 30 days). The applicant must take all necessary action to reduce the amount of burning time necessary.
- The burning shall be conducted so that smoke and/or fly-ash shall not become a nuisance. Upon the validation of complaints by this office, the permit holder may be ordered to cease burning operations until such time as conditions allow resumption of burning. **PROVISIONS SHALL BE MADE TO WET DOWN THE ASH BEFORE ITS REMOVAL.**
- The hauling of debris over the highways to a burning site is prohibited. Permission is granted for burning of debris from the issued site only. Multiple burning sites are permissible in one area;

however each site is required to meet these requirements. The revocation of the PERMIT for one burning site has the same effect on all burning sites granted by the PERMIT.

- The pit area must be protected at all times from accidental entry. Issuance of a PERMIT does not bind the City of Virginia Beach to injury claims arising from this type accident. All applicable O.S.H.A. and Virginia O.S.H. requirements are to be administered.
- The PERMIT is granted for the removal of land clearing debris only.
- If weather conditions are such that burning can be hazardous, the activity will be halted by the operator on the order of the Fire Marshal or as directed by the State Air Pollution Control Board for an air quality alert. This does not constitute a revocation, and an extension of the PERMIT can be granted based upon these conditions.
- A sign stating "CONTROLLED BURNING IN PROGRESS" shall be posted and highly visible to the public during the pit burning operation. The sign size shall be 4' X 8' in contrasting colors and shall the lettering shall be 12" in height.

PERMIT CONDITIONS

The applicant whose signature appears below agrees to abide by permit conditions resulting from the approval of this application.

HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE

Permittee (applicant/organization) shall assume all risk incidents to or in connections the permitted activity and shall be solely responsible for damage or injury, or whatever kind or nature, to person or property, directly or indirectly arising out of or in connection with the permitted activity or the conduct of permittee's operation. Permittee hereby expressly agrees to defend and save the City, its officials, agents, employees, and representatives harmless from any penalties for violation of any law, ordinance, or regulations affecting its activity and from any and all claims, suites, losses, damages or injuries directly or indirectly arising out of or in connection with the permitted activities or conduct or its operation or resulting from negligence or intentional acts of omissions of Permittee or its officers, agents, and employees.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____



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Fire Prevention Pit Burn Application

Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____ **Phone number:** () _____ () _____

Are you also the land owner or agent of the owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ (If not please fill out the following)

Land Owner/Agent for Owner: _____

Address: _____ **Phone number:** () _____ () _____

Is the burn site the same address as the applicant? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the burn site the same address as the land owner or agent? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If not please fill out the following)

Location of Burn Site: _____

Distance of Burning Site to the Nearest: Building _____ Roadway _____ Wooded Area _____

Type of Material to be Burned _____ **Amount of Material to be Burned** _____

Please fully complete the description of the device you will be using in your operation

(Please provide manufacturers cut sheet)

Manufacturer: _____ **Model Number:** _____ **Horsepower:** _____

Air Flow in CFM: _____ **Manifold Length:** _____ **Width:** _____

Manufacturer's Recommended Trench Dimensions:

Length: _____ **Width:** _____ **Depth:** _____

Signature of Applicant _____

Signature of Property Owner _____

Office Use Only

Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐

Inspector: _____ **Date:** _____

Additional Comments: _____

