

ANSWERS TO YOUR BURNING QUESTIONS

How to Get a Burn Permit

1. Obtain a burn permit application from Larimer County Department of Health and Environment (LCDHE). Call 498-6775 to find out how to get an application.
2. Allow LCDHE a minimum of 24 hours to evaluate the application.
3. Contact LCDHE to see if the permit has been approved or denied. Some applications require a visit from the health department or fire authority prior to approval.
4. Contact the local fire authority. They have final approval determination on the application based on their fire restrictions.
5. Once approved, call the appropriate communication center just prior to burning. This will prevent the fire department from having to unnecessarily respond to a fire at the location of your approved burn.
6. Keep a copy of your burn permit on site when you are burning. **A valid permit will have signatures from both the health department and the fire department.**
7. Call the communication center to notify them when you are finished burning.

Air Quality

Most outdoor burning in Larimer County requires a permit signed by both the Fire Department and the Health Department. The fire department evaluates applications for potential fire safety issues, while the health department evaluates applications for air quality issues that can impact human health. For example, open burning releases fine particulates that can aggravate chronic lung diseases and carbon monoxide that can prevent the transport of oxygen in the blood.

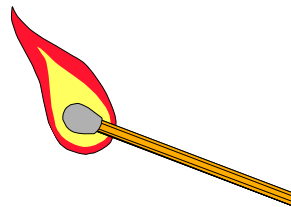
Open burning in Larimer County is regulated by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment/Air Pollution Control Division and Larimer County Department of Health and Environment under Colorado Air Quality Control Commission's Regulation One. Open burning without a permit is illegal and can result in fines of up to \$10,000 per day.

Exemptions

Some burning activities do not require a permit from the Health Department. These include

- ⇒ recreational or cooking fires
- ⇒ flares
- ⇒ agricultural burning
- ⇒ irrigation ditches

These activities may still require a permit from the Fire Authority. Contact them prior to burning.



Prohibited Materials

- ⇒ Routine yard and garden clean-up waste
- ⇒ Structures
- ⇒ Construction debris
- ⇒ Household garbage
- ⇒ Materials that produce excessive smoke (plastic, wire, tires, wet grass, leaves, etc.)
- ⇒ Commercial/Business waste
- ⇒ Stumps


Safety Guidelines


- ⇒ Pile debris in open areas away from standing timber and structures.
- ⇒ Piles should be no larger than 8 feet wide and 6 feet high.
- ⇒ There must be a minimum of 3 inches of snow cover around piles.
- ⇒ Winds should be less than 10 mph. Check the weather forecast to avoid burning during high winds or extremely dry conditions.
- ⇒ Always have water, a rake, and a shovel available.
- ⇒ Attend all fires until completely out.
- ⇒ All burning must be extinguished by nightfall.

Slash Burning

Slash burning in the foothills and mountains should be done during damp conditions or when good snow cover exists. These burn permits are issued between **October 1 and April 1.**

Important Phone Numbers

 Larimer County
Department of Health & Environment
498-6775
Emergency Services
498-5301
Wildfire Safety Coordinator
498-7718
Communication Center
498-5141 or 498-5142

 Fort Collins Area
Poudre Fire Authority
221-6570
Communication Center
221-6540

 Loveland
Loveland Fire District
962-2518
Communication Center
667-2151

 Berthoud
Fire Department
532-2264
Communication Center
532-2611

 Estes Park
Fire Department
557-0900
Communication Center
586-4000

Your fire response agency is

All applicants must notify the appropriate communication center before and after each permitted burn.



Are You FIREWISE?

Larimer County
Department of Health & Environment
1525 Blue Spruce Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Open Burning Requirements and Guidelines



Larimer County Department of Health and Environment
1525 Blue Spruce Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970/498-6775

