



Indian River County Fire Rescue
Fire Prevention Bureau
1801 27th Street Building A
Vero Beach, FL 32960
772-226-1880
fireprevention@ircgov.com

BURNING REGULATIONS COUNTY & CITIES

(Excluding the Town of Indian River Shores)

2020 Edition

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL FIRES:

- No fires are allowed under windy conditions.
- All fires shall be continuously attended.
- Fires must not produce nuisance smoke and/or odors.
- Burn only dry natural materials.
- All fires must meet required setbacks.
- Extinguishment equipment to be onsite (i.e., water, fire extinguisher, sand & shovel, etc.).

BURN TIMES:

- Between 9:00 am and one hour before sunset. Excludes cooking and warming fires.

PROHIBITED BURNING:

- Hazardous or biological waste, tires, rubber material, oil, asphalt, roofing material, tar, treated wood, plastics, garbage, or trash.
- No burning will be allowed when the following occurs: A National Weather Service Air Stagnation Advisory, Air Pollution Episode, or the Division of Forestry has determined that weather conditions are unfavorable for safe burning.
- Smoke from approved burns may not reduce visibility on public roadways, airports, or other sensitive areas.
- When a burn or smoke poses a threat to public health, livestock, or property, the fire will be extinguished.
- Burning authorizations will be denied to any person responsible for a burn who repeatedly violates Florida Law or Local Ordinances. This denial will remain in effect until the concern that caused the denial has been mitigated in consultation with the appropriate authorities: Division of Forestry Official, Fire Marshal, or County/City official.
- Exception: When not restricted by location, setback requirements, or weather conditions, one and two-family residential properties may burn dried vegetative yard debris and household paper products.

REQUIRED BURN DISTANCES:

- 50' from any public road or highway.
- 25' from any residence that is on the property where the burning is being conducted.
- 150' from the neighboring buildings.
- 25' from forest, woodlands, brush or combustible material.
- The fire must be in a ground excavation or noncombustible container.
- Burn materials must not be above ground level or the top of the burn container.
- The maximum household fire size is 8' in diameter (4' for cooking & warming fires).

PERMITTED BURN LOCATIONS (CITY OR COUNTY):

Fellsmere:

- Yard debris and household paper products may be burned, but a permit through the City is required. 772-571-1616.

Sebastian:

- No burning is permitted in the city limits.

Vero Beach:

- No burning is permitted in the city limits.

Unincorporated Indian River County:

- One and two-family residential properties may burn dried vegetation and household paper products when not restricted by these burn regulations.
- Commercial properties may not burn without the approval of the Fire Prevention Bureau and the Florida Division of Forestry. IRCFP 772-226-1880, DOF 772-778-5085.

COOKING OR WARMING FIRES:

- A cooking or warming fire must be in a ground excavation or a noncombustible container with a maximum diameter of 4 feet.
- A cooking or warming fire is to be continuously attended with extinguishment items onsite (i.e., water, fire extinguisher, sand, shovel, etc.).
- If there are multiple cooking or warming fires, each fire is to have a dedicated attendant and extinguishment items.

BONFIRES:

- A permit and a Fire Engine standby are required through the Indian River County Fire Prevention Bureau.
- A list of requirements and applications are available at 1801 27th Street, Building-A Vero Beach, FL 32960, 772-226-1880, or online at <http://www.irces.com> under the Fire Rescue tab on the left side of the page.

BURNING OF COMMERCIAL TREE CUTTING DEBRIS:

- An air curtain incinerator permit is required through the Indian River County Fire Prevention Bureau. Applications are available at 1801 27th Street, Building A Vero Beach, FL 32960, 772-226-1880, or online at <http://www.irces.com> under the Fire Rescue tab on the left side of page.
- Air curtain incinerator burning is not allowed on weekends or Indian River County Government observed holidays.
- Air curtain incinerator permits expire 180 days from issuance.
- A daily Fire Prevention approval and on-site inspection are required prior to burning; you may call after 4:00 pm the day before to schedule the inspection.
- If the weather conditions are unfavorable, as determined by the Fire Prevention Bureau, no burning will be allowed.

BURNING OF LAND CLEARING DEBRIS:

- A Division of Forestry burn permit is required; call for information 772-778-5085.
- A daily Division of Forestry approval and on-site inspections are required prior to burning; you may call after 4:00 pm the day before for approval and to schedule the inspection.
- If the fire gets out of compliance, you have two hours to regain control and meet requirements.
- If the Division of Forestry or IRC Fire Rescue determines that the burn causes a threat to life, public safety, or property, fire suppression actions will be taken, and fines may be issued.

BURNING FOR AGRICULTURAL OR SILVICULTURAL PURPOSES:

- A Florida Division of Forestry burn permit is required if the burning is on land used for agriculture or silvicultural purposes, call for information 772-778-5085.

WARNING!

- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTROL OF YOUR FIRE.**
- **YOU MAY BE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES IF YOUR FIRE GETS OUT OF CONTROL.**
- **ENSURE YOU HAVE ADEQUATE WATER AND EQUIPMENT ONSITE FOR CONTROL.**
- **ENSURE SAFE WEATHER CONDITIONS PREVAIL BEFORE STARTING YOUR FIRE.**
- **IF YOUR FIRE GETS OUT OF CONTROL, IMMEDIATELY CALL 911.**

If you need more information or want to know if weather conditions are favorable for a fire, please call the Florida Division of Forestry at 772-778-5085 or the Fire Prevention Bureau at 772-226-1880.

For complete burning information, refer to the Florida Administrative Codes: 62-256.200, 62-256.300, and 62-256.700.