



# Southwest Clean Air Agency

## ***Agricultural Burn Permit: Application for Field Burning*** (This application is not for pile burning)

**For Office Use Only**

Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Do You Need an Agricultural Burn Permit?**

All commercial agricultural operations must get a permit before burning natural vegetation, except when preapproved for burning orchard pruning, natural vegetation along fence lines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must always notify your fire protection authority and the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA, 360-574-3058) prior to igniting any fire 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 the Southwest Clean Air Agency.

### **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 \$30.00.***
5. Sign and date the application.
6. Mail or submit in person the application and check for the permit fee to:

**Southwest Clean Air Agency  
11815 NE 99<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1294  
Vancouver, WA 98682-2322**

Office Hours: 7 a.m. – Noon and 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

### **What happens next?**

The Southwest Clean Air Agency 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Shop: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person (if other than the applicant): \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

For the fields applied for to burn, is the applicant the operator?  Yes or  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 verified commercial agricultural operation as defined in Chapter 173-430 WAC.
3. You agree to grant the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) or their duly authorized representative 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 or a delegated permitting authority. 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<br>(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 requested 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**

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; i.e., 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 to burn location (required) / street address (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

**Documentation for Field Burn**

| For crop harvested in the year:<br>(List last year) | Crop Harvested (crop type) | Was the residue from this crop burned? |    |
|---|----------------------------|--|----|
|   |                            | Yes                                    | No |
| 20__  |                            | Yes                                    | No |
| 20__  |                            | Yes                                    | No |
| 20__  |                            | Yes                                    | No |
| 20__  |                            | Yes                                    | No |

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

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

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

Describe your tillage/seeding plans following the burn. \_\_\_\_\_

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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? \_\_\_\_\_

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Does this burn enable you to transition into non-burning alternatives? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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Is this the only field you are currently applying for to burn?

- Yes – Then 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.
- No – Then you must complete a Field Burn Detail page (page 4) for each field requested to burn, attach to this application and summarize all fields on the following Burn Summary page

**Burn Summary (for more than 1 burn associated with an application)**

| Burn     | Field Name: | Acres | Crop | Yield in last year harvested | Burn Zone | Fire District | Expected Burn Date |
|----------|-------------|-------|------|------------------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|
| Burn #1  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #2  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #3  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #4  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #5  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #6  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #7  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #8  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #9  |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |
| Burn #10 |             |       |      |                              |           |               |                    |

**Permit Fee (minimum fee is \$30.00)**

Total acres requested to burn \_\_\_\_\_ x \$3.00 =

**If the calculated amount in the box above is less than \$30.00, your permit fee is \$30.00.**

**If the calculated amount in the box above is more than \$30.00, the amount in the box is your permit fee.**

**Refund Policy:**

Refunds are available if no burning or partial burning takes place. Permits are valid for either Spring season (January 1 through June 30) or Fall season (July 1 through December 31). Check with your Permitting Authority or check “permit conditions” for exact terms and dates for refund processing.

All permits (denied or approved) are subject to a \$30.00 non-refundable administrative fee.

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