



Southwest Clean Air Agency

Agricultural Burn Permit: Application to Burn Baled Agricultural Residue

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 burning orchard pruning, natural vegetation along fence lines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must have a Baled Agricultural Residue Burn Permit to burn baled residue from 10 acres or less, or a maximum equivalent of 2 tons per acre. This permit is not to be used for open-field burning or spot burning (other than baled residue, of 10 acres or less).

You must **notify SWCAA at 360-574-3058** and local fire authorities before you burn and follow all local fire safety regulations. You may not burn during seasonal burn bans, an air pollution episode or any stage of impaired air quality (burn ban).

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.

What is baled agricultural residue?

Examples of baled agricultural residue that may be permitted for burning include broken, mildewed, diseased or otherwise pest-ridden bales.

How much does the permit cost?

The fee is \$30 for any burning under 10 acres (or its baled maximum equivalent of 2 tons per acre.)

Is my permit still valid?

The Baled Agricultural Residue Burning Permit, if issued, is valid for either Spring Season (January 1- June 30) or Fall Season (July 1- December 31).

When is burning allowed?

Burning baled residue will be allowed as a last resort. Growers must consider and attempt to use any and all alternatives to burning. Growers must call the **Southwest Clean Air Agency (360-574-3058)** for up-to-date local smoke ventilation conditions and burn only on declared burn days and during times specified. You must notify your local fire district before burning.

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 locations of the bales 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. Sign and date the application.
4. Mail the application and check for \$30 to:

**Southwest Clean Air Agency
11815 NE 99th 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 (SWCAA) 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 **January 1-June 30 OR July 1-December 31.**

Applicant's Name: _____	Phone: _____
Business Name: _____	Phone: _____
Mailing Address: _____	
City: _____	County: _____
State: _____	Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____	Phone: _____

Please complete the following table with Section, Township and Range information that best explains where you expect to burn. If bales are located in different areas, and/or have different reasons why they need to be burned, fill out specific information for each location. If you know the baled acreage, use the exact acreage. If you do not know the acreage, estimate the weight of the bales in tons. *Permitted bale burns may not exceed 10 acres of baled residue or the maximum equivalent of 2 tons per acre.*

Expected Baled Agricultural Residue Burning

Burn	Section	Location Township	Range	Acres or Tons*	**Reason	Expected Burn Date
# 1						
# 2						
# 3						
# 4						
# 5						

* Assume 2 tons per acre if acreage baled is unknown

**Alternative to burning must be considered and attempted

Applicant Statements:

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. **You certify that you are a verified commercial agricultural operation as defined in Chapter 173-430 WAC.**
2. **You understand you must follow burn/no burn decisions by burning on designated days and during designated hours in order to minimize air pollution in accordance with 70.94.650 RCW.**
3. **You agree to grant the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) 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, or their duly authorized representatives, 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.

Applicant's Signature

Dated

Printed Name