



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Department of Resources and Economic Development
Division of Forests and Lands
FOREST PROTECTION BUREAU



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING FIRE PERMITS

1. What materials can be burned with a fire permit?

Brush and wood cannot exceed 5 inches in diameter. No household waste, treated wood or composite materials may be burned.

2. How close to a structure can I kindle my fire?

A category I fire must be at least 25' from structures and category II or greater fire must be at least 50' from structures.

3. When can I kindle my fire?

A category I fire may be kindled with a permit at any time whether raining or not. A category II and category III fire may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining.

4. If I started my category II or III fire while it was raining and it stops raining do I have to extinguish the fire?

Yes! The fire must be extinguished and you will need to wait until after 5:00 pm to kindle it again.

5. Do you own the land where you plan to burn?

If not, you must have written landowner approval in order to receive a fire permit or furnish proof that you are a legal agent for the landowner.

6. Can I burn material from the demolition of buildings?

The NH Department of Environmental Services has regulations that must be followed regarding the testing and abatement of asbestos prior to demolition. Only clean, untreated and non-contaminated wood may be burned.

7. Do you have adequate resources to control and completely extinguish your fire?

The permittee shall have sufficient water, tools and personnel necessary to control and completely extinguish the fire. A buried fire is not an extinguished fire.

8. Can I use tires or tubes to start my fire?

No! This would be a serious violation of NH DES Air Resources Division rules and regulations.

9. How old do I have to be in order to obtain a fire permit?

You must be at least 18 years old to obtain a fire permit.

Note: Proper identification for the purpose of age and residency identification must be presented at time of permit application.



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 Forest Protection Bureau

**Permit to
 Kindle Fire**

DRED Form 5601A Revised 01/06

PERMITTEE _____

LANDOWNER NAME & ADDRESS _____

(If Different than permittee)

LOCATION OF FIRE _____

DATE(S) _____ TIME: From _____ To _____ Or While Raining.

PERMIT FOR: Category I Category II Category III Seasonal (Category I and II Only)

***Refer to the synopsis on the back of this form for specific category requirements.

***No residential trash, treated wood, or material greater than 5" diameter shall be burned at any time!

CAUTION - PERMIT SUMMARILY SUSPENDED: 1. If fire is kindled at unspecified date, time or place; 2. If weather is unfavorable or proclamation closing woodland is in force; 3. If help and equipment is inadequate to control fires; 4. If material not specified is burned. If fire escapes from control you may be held liable for: 1. Payment of damage to property of another; 2. Payment of suppression costs to the town; 3. Prosecution for failure to comply with regulations. Burning under the authority of this permit will be valid only if it does not violate N.H. DES Air Resources Division regulations.

NO FIRES SHALL BE LEFT UNATTENDED AT ANY TIME WITHOUT BEING COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED. A BURIED FIRE IS NOT CONSIDERED EXTINGUISHED.

I, the undersigned permittee, am eighteen years of age or older and understand the law, regulations and my responsibilities under the terms of this permit.

Director
 Division of Forests and Lands
 172 Pembroke Road
 P.O. Box 1856, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-1856
 (603) 271-2214 www.nhdfi.org

Signature of Permittee: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Issuing Agent: _____

Town of: _____

Date Issued: _____

NO CATEGORY II OR III FIRE SHALL BE KINDLED OR MATERIAL BURNED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:00 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M. UNLESS ACTUALLY RAINING. PLEASE READ THE SYNOPSIS OF THE LAW CONTAINED ON THE BACK OF THIS PERMIT.

White - Applicant Yellow - Issuing Agent

SYNOPSIS OF FIRE PERMIT LAWS AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
 From RSA 227-L:17 and Res 5600

Permission - No person shall kindle a fire upon the land of another without written permission from the owner, agent or caretaker thereof.

Permits - No person, firm, or corporation shall kindle or cause to be kindled any fire or shall burn or cause to be burned any material, and no city or town shall kindle or maintain a fire on a public dump, except when the ground is covered with snow, without first obtaining a written permit from the forest fire warden of the town where the burning is to be done unless it is in the presence of the warden or the warden's agent. The State Forester may make and adopt such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary to give effect to the provision, and he shall prepare all state permits issued by Forest Fire Wardens, or his agent.

Liability - Any person, firm or corporation causing or kindling a fire without a permit, when a permit is required, and also any person by whose negligence or the negligence of his agents any fire shall be caused, is liable to the town for all expenses incurred in attending or extinguishing such fire. Every person who shall set fire on any land that shall run upon the land of another, shall pay to the owner all damages done by such fire.

Category I Fire - means a small controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, no greater than 2' in diameter contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace. A category I fire, conditions permitting, may be kindled with a permit at any time of day whether raining or not.

Category II Fire - means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, no greater than 4' in diameter contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace. A category II fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining.

Category III Fire - means any other fire, not a category I or category II fire or a fire greater than 4' in diameter or a fire not contained within a ring of resistive material. A category III fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining.

Category I or Category II Fires - When written permission has been obtained from the landowner, and a written permit from the Forest Fire Warden, or his agent, category I or category II fires may be kindled in fireplaces, at suitable times and in suitable places where they will not endanger woodlands. Category I and II fires must be kindled in an approved device or enclosed by a fire ring. Upon failure to totally extinguish such fires, the parties responsible are subject to the same liabilities and penalties as are prescribed for other fires.

Penalty - For kindling a fire in woodlands of another without written permission of the owner, or for kindling any fire without a written permit when a permit is required, a person may be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined up to \$2,000.00, and/or imprisoned for a period of up to 1 year.