Land Clearers

- Know the law when burning debris from land clearing.
- Recycle or properly dispose of waste.
- You can be fined for illegal burning.

Piles must contain only natural vegetative materials.

500‘ Burn piles must be at least 500 feet from occupied buildings/structures.

250‘ Piles must be at least 250 feet from any public road when the wind is blowing toward the roadway.

Fires must be started after 8 a.m., and new material can’t be added after 6 p.m.

Don’t burn on Code Orange, Red or Purple days and always check your county air quality forecast before burning. For forecasts, visit www.ncair.org.

Before burning, check all NC DAQ rules and NC Forest Service rules. To check permit requirements go to www.ncforestservice.gov.

Check your local ordinances for additional restrictions on open burning.

Smoke from open burning pollutes the air and is unhealthy to breathe. Potential health effects include: lung and eye irritation, headaches, dizziness, asthma attacks, coughing and even death.

North Carolina Division of Air Quality
www.ncair.org 919-707-8400

NC DEQ/DAQ 06-22-2020.
Illegal Burning

- Outdoor fires pollute the air.
- Smoke is unhealthy to breathe.
- Recycle or properly dispose of waste.
- You can be fined for illegal burning.

Never burn these items:

Newspaper, cardboard and other paper products. X

Plastic and other synthetic materials. X

Paints, household and agricultural chemicals. X

Tires and other rubber products. X

Asphalt shingles and heavy oils. X

Treated or coated wood and other building materials. X

Wire. X

Buildings, mobile homes. X

Burning is sometimes allowed:

Vegetative materials originating at private residences (not business property) may be burned, if no public pickup is available and you follow DAQ rules and local ordinances. Don’t burn on Code Orange, Red, or Purple days and always check your county air quality forecast before burning. For forecasts, visit www.ncair.org. For more information regarding agricultural burning practices, please contact DAQ or NC Department of Agriculture; www.ncagr.gov.

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