



Burn Bans Explained

Guidelines for Kenmore and Lake Forest Park

There are two types of burn bans that may be in effect during the summer months, **air quality** and **fire safety**.

Air quality burn bans are issued and enforced by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency when air pollution levels rise to unhealthy levels. Air quality burn bans typically occur during colder fall and winter months. You can check for air quality burn bans on the [Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's website](#)

Fire safety burn bans are issued by the King County Fire Marshal's Office when dry weather conditions heighten the risk of wildfires. Fire safety burn bans are generally called during the summer and can last for several months. You can check for fire safety burn bans on [King County's website](#)

Outdoor burning in the form of recreational fires is allowed in Kenmore and Lake Forest Park. Recreational Fires are typically cooking fires and charcoal barbecues, campfires in designated areas or on private property for cooking, pleasure or ceremonial purposes. Fires lit in chimneys, fire pits, fire bowls and similar free-standing devices.

Recreational fire are not allowed during air quality burn bans, but are permitted during fire safety bans provided adherence to the following regulations:

Keep it small - Fires must not exceed three feet in diameter or two feet in height.

Fuel it right - Only charcoal, dried firewood or manufactured firelogs may be used. It is illegal to burn anything else.

Stay clear of structures - Check with your local fire department regarding setback requirements.

Stand guard and extinguish - A person capable of extinguishing the fire must attend it at all times, and the fire must be extinguished before leaving it.

Be a good neighbor - It is always illegal to smoke out your neighbor. If smoke from your fire bothers your neighbors, damages their property or otherwise causes a nuisance, you must immediately put it out.

We get called to respond to a significant number of outdoor burning complaints throughout the year. In most cases the cause for the call out is when smoke from a recreational fire adversely impacts a neighbor. To avoid having us visit and asking you to extinguish your recreational fire follow the rules and be mindful of your neighbor's air quality.

For additional questions, you can reach us at 425-354-1780 or admin@northshorefire.com