BOARDMAN FIRE RESCUE
Serving with Honor • Integrity •Respect

(541) 481-FIRE (3473) Fax (541) 481-0909 e-mail: mhughes@boardmanfd.com

911 Tatone Street, Boardman, Oregon 97818

BOARDMAN FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
OPEN BURNING POLICY

IMPORTANT REQUIREMENT

Before beginning any open burn, the permit holder must contact Morrow County Dispatch at 541-676-5317 to confirm that burning is authorized for that day.

Residential burn permits are valid for three years.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Permission is required before burning grass, grain, stubble, debris, or other combustible materials within the State of Oregon.

Boardman Fire Rescue District allows open burning only with a valid permit and when all requirements of this policy are met.

Open burning includes any outdoor burning. Examples include:

- Burn barrels
- Outdoor fireplaces
- Backyard incinerators
- Piles of yard debris
- Stumps burned during land clearing
- Construction debris
- Materials remaining from demolished structures

CONDITIONS FOR OPEN BURNING

A burn permit is valid only when all the following conditions are met:

1. Daily Authorization

Before burning, the permit holder must contact Morrow County Dispatch to determine whether burning is authorized for that day.

Call: **541-676-5317**

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2. Fire-Control Equipment

The permit holder must have adequate equipment and water immediately available to control and extinguish the fire.

The size of the fire must not exceed the permit holder's available onsite water supply or ability to control the fire.

Appropriate fire-control equipment may include:

- Adequate water supply
- Charged garden hose
- Rake
- Shovel
- Tractor
- Disk or other appropriate equipment

3. Weather Conditions

Open burning is prohibited when any of the following conditions exist:

- Temperature is above 90 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Wind speed is above 15 miles per hour.
- Relative humidity is below 20 percent.

The permit holder must continuously monitor weather conditions during the burn and extinguish the fire if conditions become unsafe.

4. Prohibited Materials

The permit holder must not burn any material prohibited by this policy or applicable law.

5. Attendance

The permit holder must remain with the fire at all times until the fire is completely extinguished and cold.

6. Burning Restrictions

Open burning is prohibited whenever the Oregon State Fire Marshal, Boardman Fire Rescue District, or another authorized agency has suspended or prohibited burning.

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PERMIT AUTHORITY

Within the boundaries of Boardman Fire Rescue District and the cities it serves, the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designated representative is responsible for issuing and administering open-burning permits.

PROHIBITED OPEN BURNING

It is unlawful to conduct open burning that:

1. Unreasonably interferes with another person's enjoyment of life or property.
2. Creates a public or private nuisance.
3. Creates a hazard to public safety.
4. Involves any prohibited material, including:

- Rubber products
- Tires
- Plastic
- Wet garbage
- Petroleum products
- Petroleum-treated materials
- Asphalt
- Industrial waste
- Creosote-treated wood
- Any material that produces dense smoke or noxious odors

PERMIT HOLDER RESPONSIBILITY

Permit holders are responsible for every fire they start.

The permit holder may be held liable for:

- Fire-suppression costs
- Damage to another person's property
- Other costs resulting from an escaped, uncontrolled, or unlawful fire
- Attorney fees when authorized by law

If a fire escapes or the permit holder loses control of the fire, the permit holder must immediately call 911.

Do not delay calling for emergency assistance while attempting to regain control of the fire.

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PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

Open-burning violations may result in penalties of up to $10,000 per day for each day a violation continues.

Continued violations may result in revocation of the burn permit.

ORS 478.965 authorizes the District to recover the costs of suppressing an unlawful fire and associated attorney fees.

Under ORS 477.740, an unlawful fire may include a fire that:

1. Is unlawfully set.
2. Is intentionally or negligently allowed to escape.
3. Is accidentally started or allowed to escape from control without being extinguished.
4. Is known to be burning and the responsible person fails or neglects to make a reasonable effort to control or extinguish it.

ANNUAL BURNING CLOSURE

Open-burning season is closed annually from June 15 through October 1, unless the District announces different closure or reopening dates based on fire conditions.

EMERGENCY AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Fire Emergency: **911**

Before Burning — Morrow County Dispatch: **541-676-5317**

Boardman Fire Rescue District: **541-481-3473**