

CONTROLLED BURN CODES

Controle Codiogos de Quemadura

1. **Fires must be attended by a competent person at all times.**

Debe ser asistido por una persona competente siempre.

2. **Must have, on hand, an adequate extinguisher agent: garden hose, dirt, sand or water barrel.**

Debe Tener a un agente adecuado de extinguisher, tal como manguera de jardin, la tierra, la arena, o barril de agua.

3. **Must be located at least 50 feet from any structure or in an approved container that is not less than 15 feet from the structure.**

Debe ser localizado por lo menos 50 pies de ninguna estruactura ni en un contenedor que aprobabado que no es menos de 15 pies de la estructura.

4. **Must not contain petroleum-based products, such as: plastics, tires, paint shingles or anything that gives off black smoke or strong odors**

No debe contener petroleo los productos basados tales como plasticos, las llantos, pintan, las tablillas ni nada que exhale el humo negro ni los olores fuertes.

5. **Must be extinguished by nightfall.**

Debe ser extinguished por la caida de la noche.

6. **Must obtain a burn permit issued by the Georgia Forestry Commission: Telephone (877) 652-2876 or on line at www.gatres.org.**

Debe obtener un permiso de la quemadura piblicado por las Comision del Patrimonio Forestal de Georgia (877) 652-2876.



GEORGIA'S OPEN BURNING BAN

Open Burning Rules for Georgia - Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Georgia DNR
<http://www.gatrees.mobi/online-permits/GeorgiaBurnBan.cfm>

When is the burning ban in effect?

The burning ban is in effect from May 1 through September 30 each year.

What counties are under the burning ban?

Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Bibb, Butts, Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Columbia, Coweta, Crawford, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gordon, Gwinnett, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Paulding, Peach, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Richmond, Rockdale, Spalding, Troup, Twiggs, Upson, Walker and Walton.

Who is responsible for the burning ban?

The open burning ban is under the jurisdiction of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Air Protection Branch.

Why is the burning ban needed?

The Georgia EPD imposes a ban on outdoor burning to comply with Federal Clean Air Regulations. During the summer months in Georgia, the ozone in the air we breathe can reach unhealthy levels. The Georgia EPD has identified open burning as a significant contributor of the pollutants that form ozone. Consequently, open burning in metro Atlanta and larger counties must be restricted during the summer months.

How can the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) help me determine whether I can burn or not? The Georgia Forestry Commission's on-line burn permit system and 1-877-OK2-BURN phone system will inform by county whether or not you can burn or you can call your local GFC office. <http://www.gatrees.org/online-permits/index.cfm>

Fire Marshal's Office

Fire and EMA Administrative Complex • 1005 Memorial Drive, Griffin, Georgia 30223 • Telephone: (770) 228-2129 • Email: hwilliams@spaldingcounty.com

Spalding
COUNTY



**In Georgia,
It is illegal to burn
household garbage.**

**Maximum fines can be as high as
up to \$25,000 per day per
violation.**

**Open burning is a prohibited act under both the
Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Act and Rules
and the Georgia Air Quality Act and Rules.**

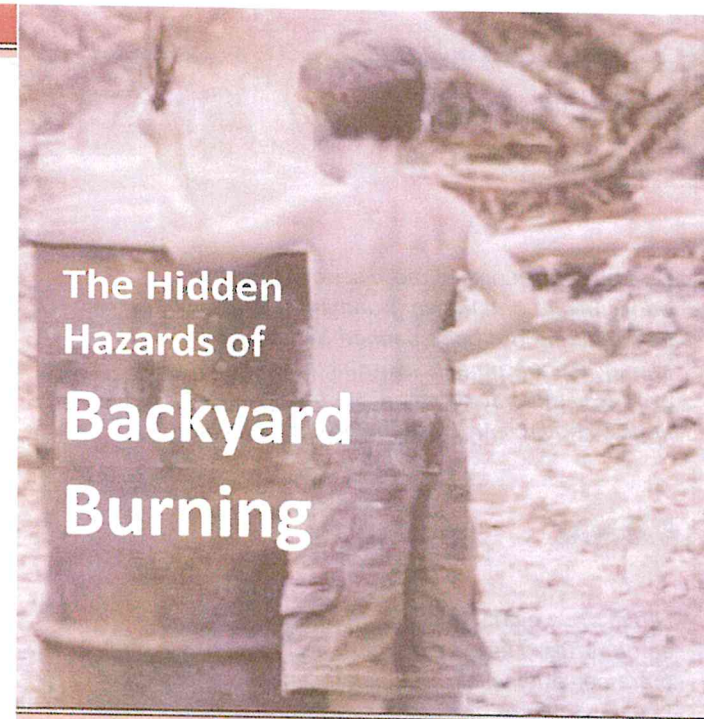
**Protect your health
and your wallet.**

Don't Burn Trash.

TOOLS YOU CAN USE

- **To learn more** about Georgia's burning regulations, visit epd.georgia.gov/air/open-burning-rules-Georgia.
- **To learn more** about the dangers of backyard burning and disposal alternatives, visit EPA's Backyard Burning Web site at www3.epa.gov/epawaste/nonhaz/municipal/backyard/.
- **Earth 911** <www.earth911.org> has community- and state-specific recycling and disposal information by ZIP code. Or call 1-800-CLEANUP for the same information.
- **For more information** on dioxins, how they are formed, associated health effects, and other frequently asked questions, visit EPA's Dioxin Web site at cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/CFM/nceaQFind.cfm?keyword=Dioxin.
- **Contact local officials** for more information on regulations and disposal alternatives in your community.

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Air Protection Branch
4244 International Parkway
Suite 120
Atlanta, GA 30354
Phone: 404-363-7000
Web: epd.georgia.gov/air/



The Hidden Hazards of Backyard Burning

Photograph courtesy of Tim Fudd

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO PROTECT YOUR HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Burning household waste in burn barrels or open piles might be common in your community. But the smoke from these fires contains dangerous chemicals that affect your health and pollute our environment. Stopping backyard burning will help us all breathe easier.

BACKYARD BURNING IS A HEALTH HAZARD

Backyard burning is a more serious threat to public health and the environment than previously believed and has been banned by many state and local governments. Burning household waste produces many toxic chemicals and is one of the largest known sources of dioxins in the nation.

DIOXINS

What are dioxins?

Dioxins are highly toxic, long-lasting organic compounds. They are dangerous even at extremely low levels and have been linked to several health problems, including cancer and developmental and reproductive disorders.

How are dioxins formed?

Dioxins are formed when products containing carbon and chlorine are burned. Even very small amounts of chlorine can produce dioxins. Because burn barrels do not have the same strict controls as municipal incinerators, barrel burning releases significant amounts of dioxins. Trying to prevent dioxins from forming by separating out items high in chlorine content is not effective, since low levels of chlorine are present in most household trash.

How are we exposed to dioxins?

Dioxins accumulate in the food chain. Airborne dioxins can settle onto feed crops, which are then eaten by domestic meat and dairy animals. Dioxins also can settle on water or enter waterways through soil erosion. These dioxins accumulate in the fats of animals, and then in humans when we consume meat, fish, and dairy products.

OTHER AIR POLLUTANTS

Smoke from burn barrels contains hazardous pollutants such as particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, lead, mercury, and hexachlorobenzene. These pollutants can have immediate and long-term health effects such as:

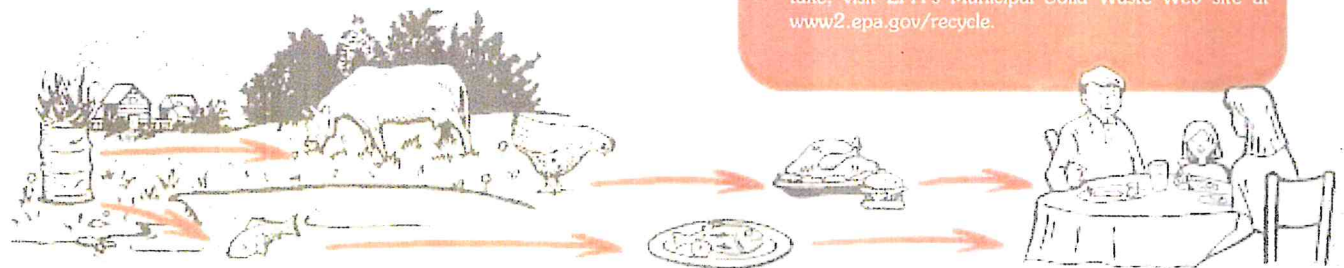
- Asthma, emphysema, or other respiratory illnesses.
- Nervous system, kidney, or liver damage.
- Reproductive or developmental disorders.

Not only are the people who burn trash exposed to these pollutants, but so are their families and neighbors. Children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions can be especially vulnerable.

ASH

The ash residue from backyard burning can contain toxic pollutants, such as mercury, lead, chromium, and arsenic, which can contaminate vegetables if scattered in gardens. Children can accidentally swallow toxic materials from dirt on their hands while playing near discarded ash.

DIOXIN IN THE FOOD CHAIN



WHAT YOU CAN DO

• **Reduce.** You can reduce the amount of waste you generate by using durable, long-lasting goods and avoiding disposable items; buying products in bulk; and looking for products with less packaging.

• **Reuse.** Reusing items is another way to reduce the amount of waste you generate. Repair, sell, or donate used or unwanted items or organize a neighborhood swap event. One person's trash is another person's treasure!

• **Compost.** Composting is a great way to dispose of yard trimmings and food scraps, while creating a natural, free fertilizer. Many communities offer weekend classes on how to compost, and some even provide composting bins at a reduced cost or show you how to build your own.

• **Recycle.** Contact your local government to find out about curbside pick-up of recyclable materials or drop-off locations.

• **Properly Dispose of Waste.** Don't litter or dump illegally. Use a waste collection service or take your waste to a transfer station, convenience center, or local landfill. Check with your local officials to learn about collection service and drop-off sites in your community.

For more information on these steps you can take, visit EPA's Municipal Solid Waste Web site at www2.epa.gov/recycle.