

Types of Fires Allowed All Year

Certain types of fires are allowed all year, even during the burn bans. Those fires are the following:

- **RECREATIONAL FIRE (NO PERMIT REQUIRED)**

- **BONFIRE (PERMIT REQUIRED)**

- Fires burned for the purpose of cooking food for immediate human consumption (example: barbecue grill or pit)
 - Fires in an outdoor fireplace, chimneys, fire bowl, or other similar device burning logs or clean wood **ONLY**.

General Penalties and Fines

- **First Violation:** Advised of corrective actions, written notice.
- **Second Violation:** Summons Issued and a fine of \$100.00 assessed.
- **Third Violation:** Summons Issued and a fine of \$250.00 assessed.
- **Fourth Violation:** Summons Issued and a fine of \$500.00 assessed.
- **Fifth and Any Subsequent Violations:** Summons issued and a fine \$1,000.00 assessed and/or up to 60 days in jail.
 - **Land clearing without permit:** \$500.00 for first violation.
 - **Yard waste fire larger than 12'x12':** \$100.00 for first violation.
 - **Damage to property of another person or out of control fire:** \$100.00 for first violation.

****If you have a complaint or problem regarding burning in your area, please call 911 when the active burning is occurring.****

Even if you follow all the guidelines for burning, you may be required to extinguish the fire if it adversely interferes with another's enjoyment of life, use of property, or if someone with a health problem is affected. For information regarding alternative methods to dispose of yard waste, contact the Georgia Environmental Protection Division at 404-362-2537.

****During the burning period, fire officials may prohibit burning at times when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make burning hazardous.****

NOTE: *This document does not contain all the requirements for outdoor burning in each category. For more information regarding outdoor burning requirements, reference the Rockdale County Outdoor Burn Ordinance, Article VII, Section 54-111.*

Rockdale County Fire Rescue

1496 Rockbridge Road, Conyers, GA 30012

Telephone: 770-278-8401 Fax: 770-278-8930

www.rockdalecountyga.gov



Fire Marshal's Office

Revised April 2023

Burning Ban May 1st – September 30th

Burn Permit Application : www.rockdalecountyga.gov/fire-burn-permit

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources has issued a ban on open burning May 1st - September 30th of each year. Fifty-four counties in Georgia (including Rockdale County) are affected. Rockdale County Fire Rescue is responsible for the enforcement of this state-issued burning ban in Rockdale County, and the City of Conyers.

From May 1st – September 30th, you may not burn leaves, tree limbs, or other yard waste, forest land or use air curtain destructors for land clearing.

Burning allowed October 1st-April 30th

During this time, you may burn limited yard debris (leaves, pine straw, and small limbs from growth on your property) and land clearing using an air curtain destructor. The below restrictions for burning also apply.

DO's for ALL types of fire:

- Burning is allowed between the hours of 10:00 am and 1 hour before sunset.
- Burning must be constantly attended by an adult who must be outdoors within 100 feet of the fire, watching the fire at all times.
- A water-charged hose must be on hand and ready for use if needed to limit or extinguish the fire. The nozzle of such water hose must be kept within 100 feet of the fire.
- **When extinguishing an outdoor fire, no smoldering or hot coals shall remain.**
- **You can burn logs or clean wood.** Clean wood means natural wood which has not been painted, varnished, or coated with a similar material; has not been pressure treated with preservatives; and does not contain resins or glues as in plywood or other composite wood products.

DON'T's for ALL types of fire:

- No burning is allowed on windy days (10mph or higher) or on days when the atmospheric conditions (cloudy, overcast, or raining) would cause the smoke to remain low to the ground.
- **Never leave a fire unattended.**
- Fire may not be started with petroleum-based products.
- Burning in a barrel or metal drum is prohibited.
- Burning garbage is prohibited-which means any waste material that includes but is not limited to, plastic products, Styrofoam, fiberglass, recycling wire (burned to access metal), tires, clothing, furniture, mattresses, boxes, papers, stumps, root balls, and kudzu vines. Any material that is moved from one location to a different property cannot be burned.
- A homeowner with large pile of brush in their yard and frequently having a small fire **is not** considered a recreational fire, People sitting around a small campfire would be considered a recreational fire.

FIRES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT:

(SEE QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFO)

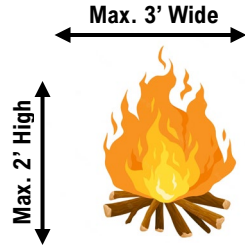
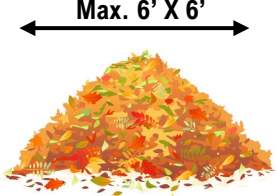
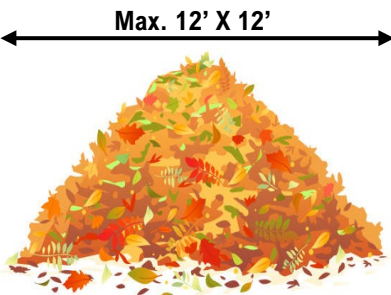
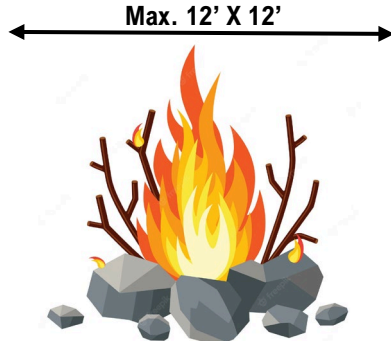
RECREATIONAL FIRE

- (SMALL) YARD WASTE-No bigger than 6' X 6'

FIRES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT:

- (LARGE) YARD WASTE-Between 6' X 6' and 12' X 12'
- BONFIRE
- LAND CLEARING USING AN AIR CURTAIN DISTRUCTOR

Quick Reference Guide

	Recreational Fire <u>NO PERMIT REQUIRED</u> ▪ Minimum 25' away from any structure. ▪ Burning of logs or clean wood <u>ONLY</u>. ▪ Between hours of 10:00am-10:30pm ▪ Must have adult within 100' at all times. ▪ Water-charged hose on hand at all times. ▪ Purpose: pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purpose.
	(SMALL) Yard Waste <u>PERMIT REQUIRED</u> ▪ Minimum 50' away from any structure. ▪ Minimum 25' from roads with speed >35mph ▪ Burning of yard debris only; no bigger than 6' in diameter. ▪ Between hours 10:00am-1 hour before sunset. ▪ Must have adult within 100' at all times. ▪ Water-charged hose on hand.
	(LARGE) Yard Waste <u>PERMIT REQUIRED</u> ▪ Minimum 300' away from any structure <u>NOT OWNED</u> by property owner. ▪ Minimum 100' away from any property line or structure owned by property owner. ▪ Burning of yard debris only. ▪ Burning of stumps or root balls is prohibited. ▪ Between hours 10:00 am- 1 hour before sunset. ▪ Must have adult within 100' at all times. ▪ Water-charged hose on hand.
	Bonfire <u>PERMIT REQUIRED</u> ▪ Burning of logs or clean wood <u>ONLY</u>. ▪ Minimum of 50' away from any structure. ▪ Minimum of 100' away from any property line. ▪ Between hours of 10:00am-10:30pm. ▪ Must have adult within 100' at all times. ▪ Water-charged hose on hand. ▪ Ceremonial purposes <u>ONLY</u>.