

HIGHLAND HILLS MAINTENANCE COMMISSION
Board of Trustees

BOARD POLICY NO: 3-6

Effective: 1 Dec. 1998
Last Revised: 4 May 2005

(Notice: This Policy supersedes all previous HHMC Board actions related to this subject)

TITLE: PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT: OUTDOOR BURNING WITHIN HIGHLAND HILLS

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY: Community Environment Committee
Architectural Control Committee

REFERENCES:

- 1) Washington Clean Air Act 1971
- 2) RCW Chapter 70.94
- 3) Clallam County Fire District #3

PURPOSE:

To prevent the spread of fire to homes in Highland Hills, and to provide information about air quality, permit requirements, restrictions and enforcement governing all outdoor burning in Highland Hills. Clallam Fire District #3 classifies outdoor burning under two categories...Residential Burning, and Land Clearing Burning.

I. RESIDENTIAL BURNING IN HIGHLAND HILLS: FIRE DISTRICT #3 PERMIT REQUIRED.

"Residential burning" means the outdoor burning of leaves, clippings, prunings and other yard and garden refuse originated on lands immediately adjacent to and in close proximity of a human dwelling and burned on such lands by the property owner or his or her designee. Fires shall be allowed, subject to the best available burning practices, which include but are not limited to the following:

PERMIT ISSUANCE - A valid residential burn permit issued by Clallam Fire District #3 is required for all residence related burning of natural vegetation in Highland Hills. The responsible person shall apply for a permit, and sign the printed burning regulations and permit. Permits are available at 323 N. Fifth Avenue, Sequim, WA, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The permit and regulations are valid for the calendar year in which they were issued (January 1 through December 31).

NOTIFICATIONS - Prior to starting a fire, notify the *Architectural Control Committee* with the Clallam Burning Permit number (if burning prior to or during construction) or the

Community Environment Committee, with the permit number, (if burning after completion of construction), as well as Fire District #3 at 683-4242. Contact with the Fire District is the best way to determine if a “Burn Ban” is in effect.

All “Residential Burning” Permit restrictions are enforced by HHMC, and/or Clallam Fire District #3. Burning permit must be on site while burning.

II. LAND-CLEARING BURNING IS PROHIBITED IN HIGHLAND HILLS

“Land clearing burning” means outdoor burning of trees, stumps, shrubbery, or other natural vegetation from land clearing projects (i.e. projects that clear land surface so it can be developed, used for a different purpose, or left unused).

III. PROHIBITED OUTDOOR FIRES

It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow any outdoor fire:

- I. that contains any of the following:
 - a. Household garbage or trash (including paper and cardboard)
 - b. Dead animals
 - c. Asphalt
 - d. Petroleum products
 - e. Paints
 - f. Rubber products
 - g. Plastics
 - h. Treated wood
 - I. Construction/demolition debris
 - j. Metal
 - k. Any other substance, which normally emits dense smoke or noxious odors when burned.
2. during any stage of an air pollution episode or during any period of impaired air quality.
3. for the purpose of demolition, salvage, or reclamation of materials.
4. during extreme fire danger due to dry weather conditions.
5. in burn barrels.
6. that includes material hauled from another property.
7. if any emission from the fire is detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of any person, causes damage to property or causes a nuisance, the fire must be extinguished immediately.

Only natural vegetation may be burned.

IV. REMOVAL OPTIONS AND DEADLINES (ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING)

Slash resulting from cutting/trimming of vegetation must be removed in a reasonable time span. Options include truck removal or chipping where up to a two (2) month time span is considered "reasonable".

V. FAILURE TO COMPLY

Penalties may be assessed for violations of these rules consistent with HHMC Governing Documents. In addition, the Fire District may assess penalties, recover costs incurred during response, control, or for extinguishing an unlawful or out-of-control fire. Property owner/contractor assumes responsibility for damage to any structure, utility line/pole, tree/shrub, fence, road/right of way or other public/private edifice by smoke, flying ash or flame, and accepts responsibility for any claimed adverse affects to the health of any person or persons in the path of said smoke/flying ash.