

LIBERTY HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Williamson County Emergency Services District NO. 4



General Requirements For Outdoor Burning

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OUTDOOR BURNING

- **Prior to starting any control burn, please contact the Williamson County 911 Communication Dispatch Center daily at (512) 864-8323. All commercial burning must be permitted by the Fire Department you may contact them at 512-515-5165.**
- Burning must be outside the corporate limits of Liberty Hill. Outdoor burning is not allowed within the City Limits of Liberty Hill.
- Begin or continue burning only when the wind conditions are such that smoke and other pollutants will not present a **hazard** to any public road, landing strip, navigable water, or have an adverse effect on any off-site structure containing "sensitive receptor(s)."
- Burning shall take place when surface wind speed is predicted to be greater than 6 mph (5 knots) and less than 23 mph (20 knots) during the burn period.
- Keep fires downwind of or at least 300 feet from any neighboring structure containing sensitive receptor(s). This requirement may be waived only with prior written approval from whoever owns or rents the adjacent property and either resides or conducts business there.
- Burning shall begin no earlier than 30 minutes after sunrise, end same day 30 minutes before sunset
- All outdoor burning must be attended by a responsible party at all times and located a minimum of 50 ft. from any structure.
- Water, equipment, or other type of extinguishment form shall be on scene at all times.
- Outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of Williamson County is authorized to destroy diseased animals when necessary to prevent the spread of disease.

ACCESS

- Fire Department access shall be maintained to burn site at all times. Fire Department access is a clear road with a width of 12 ft. & with no overhead objects within 13 ft. Tree limbs shall be kept trimmed out of access road. This access should be maintained as well for all residential & commercial customers, so that fire apparatus can make access to homes and structures during emergencies. Failure to keep a clear fire department access could result in delayed or reduced response for medical and fire emergencies.

VIOLATIONS

- Violators will receive a bill for service from the Fire Department.
- Violators of this order shall be punishable as a Class C Misdemeanor with a minimum fine of \$25.00 and not more than a \$500.00 fine.
- The Fire Department has the authority to suppress any fires that hinder the Air Quality.

FIRES USED FOR RECREATION, CEREMONY, AND COOKING.

- Outdoor burning in the unincorporated area of Williamson County shall be authorized for fires used solely for recreation or ceremonial purposes, or in the noncommercial preparation of food. Such burning shall be subject to the general requirements including, §111.219(7) Prohibited Burn Items, which are list on the top of the next page.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Electrical insulation, treated lumber, plastics, non-wood construction/demolition materials, heavy oils, asphaltic material, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, tires, and items containing natural or synthetic rubber shall not be burned.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONSEQUENCES OF OUTDOOR BURNING

- The authority to conduct outdoor burning under this regulation does not exempt or excuse any person from liability, consequences, damages, or injuries resulting from the burning, and does not exempt or excuse anyone from complying with all other applicable laws or ordinances, regulations, and orders of governmental entities having jurisdiction, even though the burning is otherwise conducted in compliance with this regulation.

DEFINITIONS

- **Extinguishment**-The absence of any visible flames, glowing coals, or smoke.
- **Campfire**- A fire no larger than 3 ft. in diameter and 3 ft. in flame height.
- **Structure(s) containing sensitive receptor(s)** A man- made structure utilized for human residence or business, the containment of livestock, or the housing of sensitive live vegetation. The facilities used solely for the storage of hay or other livestock feeds. Then term "sensitive live vegetation" includes, but are not limited to: nursery production, mushroom cultivation, pharmaceutical plant production, or laboratory experiments involving plants.
- **Sunrise/Sunset**- Official times as set forth in the United States Naval Observatory tables from the National Weather Service office.

REPORTING ILLEGAL BURNING

- To report illegal burning in Williamson County or in the city limits of Liberty Hill contact the Williamson County Communications at (512)-864-8282 OR "Dial 911".

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For more information on outdoor burning, please visit their web site at: www.tceq.state.tx.us/rules

Contact:

TCEQ Regional 11 Office (512)339-2929