



State of Vermont
PERMIT AND LICENSE INFORMATION

**AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT:
 OPEN BURNING**

**SUMMARY
 DESCRIPTION
 OF PERMIT**

While the open burning of natural wood from property maintenance such as cleaning up of property is allowed without a permit from the Air Quality & Climate Division, the open burning of some materials, including wood waste from demolition activities at a business, industry, farm or a private residence, requires a permit. If a permit is issued, except in extraordinary circumstances, it will be for the burning of wood only, and only in locations where the smoke will not cause a potential nuisance or health concern. Open burning of any materials other than natural wood using a "burn barrel", "home-made incinerator", or simply in a pile on the ground, is prohibited or may require a permit in Vermont. Permits may contain conditions restricting amounts and types of materials to be burned, location of burn sites, size of burn piles, meteorological conditions under which burning may occur, and time and duration of burns.

**EXAMPLE OF
 REGULATED
 ACTIVITY**

Typical activities include the burning of natural wood commercial wastes, the burning of natural wood construction/demolition material; the burning of wooden structures such as old sheds or barns; and the burning of other materials for which there is no other feasible method of disposal. (see Section 5-201 & 5-202 of the *Vermont Air Pollution Control Regulations* for more detailed information). Note that permissible open burning of untreated, natural wood may be subject to local and/or municipal fire prevention requirements and ordinances.

**CRITERIA FOR
 JURISDICTION**

Any open burning not listed as permissible under Section 5-201 or 5-202 of the *Vermont Air Pollution Control Regulations* must receive an Air Pollution Control Permit.

**INFORMATION
 REQUIRED**

- (i) location and topographical setting of burn site;
- (ii) approximate distance to nearest homes, businesses, roads, etc;
- (iii) type of waste or material to be burned (e.g. pallets, demolition material, etc.);
- (iv) estimated size of pile to be burned; and
- (v) proposed date of burn

WEB ADDRESS

<http://dec.vermont.gov/air-quality/compliance/open-burning>

FEES

None

**APPLICATION
 TIME FRAME**

The normal time for processing a complete application is 5 days.

**ADMINISTERING
AGENCY**

<p>AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE DIVISION</p> <p>CONTACT: Dave Shepard, Environmental Analyst Field Services Section dave.shepard@vermont.gov 802-272-4088</p> <p>ADDRESS: Davis Building, 4th Floor 1 National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-3802</p>

AUTHORITY

10 V.S.A. Section 558

**APPLICABLE
RULES**

Environmental Protection Regulations, Chapter 5, Air Pollution Control Section 5-201 & 5-202.

**APPEAL
PROCESS**

Denials of open burning permits may be appealed to the Secretary of the Agency. Effective January 31, 2005, within 30 days of the date of an act or decision, any person aggrieved by an act or decision of the secretary, or any party by right, may appeal to the environmental court in accordance with the provisions of 10 VSA Chapter 220.

OTHER PERMITS

The [DEC Environmental Assistance Office](#) provides general permit assistance through Permit Specialists located in the Agency of Natural Resources' (ANR) five regional offices. The Permit Specialist's primary job duty is to serve as the initial state contact for applicants and assist them in identifying all necessary state permits or approvals for any given project. This allows applicants to make informed business decisions about the cost and length of time required to comply with all state regulations. This also increases the likelihood that projects will meet requirements ensuring environmental and public health protection.