

Rules for outdoor burning



Whether you're in a rural or urban area, fires are not allowed within 100m of a neighbouring house or dwelling.

- You must not burn household rubbish, plastics or treated timber as these release harmful particles that can impact air quality and people's health.
- You should let garden waste such as trimmings, branches and leaves dry out naturally before burning to avoid excess smoke.
- You can use a small heating or cooking fire, such as:
 - solid fuel or gas barbecue
 - pizza oven
 - brazier
 - outdoor fireplace
 - hāngi or umu.
- For rural production land, you can apply for resource consent to burn vegetative material within 100m of another dwelling or house.

CHECKLIST

Before you light

- ✓ I am more than 100m from a neighbouring dwelling.
- ✓ I've checked the wind and weather forecast.
- ✓ I've let all neighbours know about my planned fire.
- ✓ I've checked the Fire and Emergency New Zealand website [checkitsalright.nz](https://www.checkitsalright.nz) to confirm I am allowed to light at my address.
- ✓ I will be monitoring and managing my fire to avoid excessive smoke.



Why outdoor burning rules are important

The burning of materials like plastics, rubber, chemicals and household rubbish is not allowed because there is a high risk of releasing harmful particles.

These contaminants may cause serious health effects in people and animals, such as cancers and respiratory disease.

How to get a rural fire permit

If you want to light an open air fire at your rural property that complies with the 100m rule, you need to find out what the current fire season is and whether you need a fire permit. Fire permits are issued by Fire and Emergency New Zealand and you can find more information on their website **www.checkitsalright.nz**. No matter what the fire season is and whether you have a permit, you still need to follow your local council bylaws and Regional Council requirements relating to smoke nuisance and the burning of prohibited materials.

If you want to light a fire in a public place, such as on a beach or in a park, you may need bylaw approval from your local city or district council.

For more information contact us today

Pollution Hotline 24/7: **0800 884 883**

Email: **info@boprc.govt.nz**

Visit: **www.boprc.govt.nz/outdoor-burning**

General Enquiries: **0800 884 880**

