



**VALID OCTOBER 23, 2021 TO DECEMBER 19, 2021**

## **AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT SEASONAL OPEN BURNING**

**WITHIN THE EAST FORK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
WITH THE RESTRICTIONS NOTED WITHIN DOUGLAS COUNTY CODE AND THIS DOCUMENT**

This information sheet/permit applies to residents conducting **SEASONAL OPEN BURNING** within the East Fork Fire Protection District.

**SEASONAL OPEN BURNING SHALL BE ALLOWED OCTOBER 23, 2021 TO DECEMBER 19, 2021.**

Persons participating in open burning activities do so at their own risk. The property owner may be held responsible for the costs of suppressing escaped or negligently uncontrolled fires. Douglas County Code Section 8.12.070 provides that a violation of the ordinance and the terms of this authorization is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months in jail, and a maximum fine of \$1,000.00.

### Burn Regulations:

1. Fire shall be attended and controlled at **ALL** times by a competent adult (18 years old minimum and who can communicate with public officers). This authorization shall be at the site of burning and with the attendant of the burn **at all times.**
2. **Residents who conduct seasonal open burning during this open period are required to call the East Fork Fire Burn Line at (775) 783-6497 each and every day to see if it is a permissible burn day. A recording will advise whether it is a permissive burn day or not and the burn hours for that day. All fires shall be fully extinguished with no smoke showing by 3:30 p.m.**
3. Do not conduct burning during windy conditions. Cease burning should wind conditions at burn site exceed **15 mph or if the wind moves the material burned or to be burned.**
4. Smoke shall not discharge material which has an offensive odor or which may be injurious or detrimental to the health and safety of others.
5. Burning of garbage (waste food products, dead animals, fish or fowl), oil, rubber, plastic, tarpaper or plastic products, including hay-baling twine is strictly prohibited. Plastic bags containing vegetative debris cannot be burned.
6. Burn in open area, at least 20 feet from structure or combustible materials.
7. A firebreak of not less than 20 feet shall be maintained around all fires.
8. Burning of excessive amounts of vegetation is prohibited. Limit stacks to piles of 3 feet high and 5 feet in diameter. Piles must be at least 5 feet from each other; burn one at a time to maintain control of the burn. **Burning standing grass and weeds is prohibited.**
- 9 Use of burn barrel is prohibited at all times within the East Fork Fire Protection District boundaries. The use of a propane torch or liquid fuel torches for igniting the fire is prohibited.
10. A garden hose attached to a pressurized water supply and a shovel, rake, hoe or pulaski shall be **IMMEDIATELY** available and functional for emergency use.

**East Fork Fire Protection District Burn Line (775) 783-6497**

**Residents shall confirm burning status prior to lighting burn piles.**

CHAPTER 8.12.050 Douglas County Code – Fire Department extinguishment power. The fire agency having jurisdiction, its officers or agents may, without further process of law, extinguish any fire ignited or maintained in violation of the requirements or this Chapter (Ord. 938.200; Ord 189 S6 (1971))

These regulations issued in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection. Reference: 2018 International Fire Code, Chapter 3, Section 307

NRS 474.550 Provides that: “Any person, firm, association, or agency which willfully or negligently causes a fire ... may be charged with the expense incurred in the extinguishing the fire...”

#### **Title 8 – Douglas County Code (applicable sections)**

**8.12.015 Permit Required:** No person, persons, firm, partnership, trust, company, association, corporation, or other entity shall encourage or cause Open Burning to occur, without first obtaining a permit for the type of burning to be conducted; and, without first obtaining permission each day from the Fire District wherein the Open Burn will occur prior to igniting or causing an Open Burn.

**8.12.021 Burn Barrels Prohibited:** The use of burn barrels within the boundary of Douglas County is prohibited.

**8.12.022 Garbage Burning Prohibited:** Any person who attempts to burn or burns kitchen and table refuse, offal, swill, other parts and accumulation of animals (whether domestic or wild), vegetables, meats, fish, fowl, birds or fruits, waste matter and/or papers is in violation of this Chapter and Code Section.

**8.12.023 Rubbish Burning Prohibited:** Any person who attempts to burn or burns waste including, but not limited to, treated wood, construction debris, roofing materials, paper boxes, rags, moist grass clippings, old hay or straw, barn sweepings, railroad ties treated with creosote or other preservatives, latex paints and thinners, brushes, tools, wet storage, alkaline and lithium batteries, furniture, plastic pipe and fittings, galvanized pipe and fittings, and all other combustible materials deemed by the Fire District having jurisdiction to be garbage, rubbish, or trash is in violation of this Chapter and Code Section.

**8.12.024 Toxic, Dangerous or Hydrocarbon Product Burning Prohibited:** Any person who attempts to burn or burns any combustible liquid, waste oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, alcohol or liquid byproducts of any commercial process is in violation of this Chapter and Code Section.

**8.12.025 Plastic or Rubber Products:** Any person who attempts to burn or burns any plastic or rubber product, no matter what the chemical compound, unless cellulose base is over 95% by weight, is in violation of this Chapter and Code Section.

**8.12.026 Attendance at Open Burn:** All Open Burns shall be constantly attended and controlled by a human being capable of controlling the fire. The attendant shall be able to communicate with Fire District Personnel, and shall have a communication device available at all times to notify Douglas County 911 Communications in the event a fire escapes control by the attendant.

**8.12.027 Water Supply and Tools:** All Open Burns shall have a ready water supply and proper hand tools, or farm or heavy equipment available at the burn site that is sufficient to halt the spread of a fire that escapes control by the attendant.

**8.12.040 Exceptions:** Open Burning fires no more than five feet in diameter, used exclusively for heating livestock, or branding of livestock for lawful ownership identification, are exempted from the Permit requirements under this Chapter.

**8.12.050 Powers and Duties of Fire District:** The Fire District having jurisdiction and its officers or agents may, without further process of law, enter onto the private or public property of another for the purposes of investigating any smoke or fire observed, to determine if a Permit has been issued in accordance with this Title, and to determine if violations of Code Sections 8.12.021 through 8.12.040 inclusive, or state law or regulation are or have occurred.

**8.12.055 Extinguishment of all Open Burn Fires:** The Fire District having jurisdiction and its officers or agents may, without further process of law, enter onto private or public property of another and extinguish or require to have extinguished any fire ignited or maintained in violation of the requirements of this Chapter.

**8.12.057 Cost of Extinguishment:** The fire district having jurisdiction and its officers or agents may initiate, through the Douglas County District Attorney, appropriate legal action to recover all costs incurred to extinguish any fire and/or remove fire debris or other material involved in any fire, ignited or maintained in violation of this Chapter. The Fire District having jurisdiction may record a lien against the real property where the Open Burn occurred in the amount of the costs incurred, and/or pursue all other appropriate legal remedies to recover the costs incurred.

**8.12.070 Penalty for Violation of Provisions:** Any person, persons, firm, partnership, trust, company, association, corporation, or other entity that violates any provision of this Chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and is subject to a maximum fine of \$1000 and 6 months in jail for each violation.

**8.12.071 Suspension or Revocation of Permit:** The Fire Chief or his designee, of the Fire District having jurisdiction, may immediately suspend any permit issued under this Chapter by issuance of a “Stop Order” in writing to the attendant of the fire, or by posting the “Stop Order” visibly and conspicuously on the property where the Open Burn occurred or is expected to occur.

