



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lewis County, Washington – July 13, 2026

Contact: Lewis County Building Official/Fire Marshal Doyle Sanford
Phone: 360-740-2696
Release #: 1

Countywide burn restrictions take effect at 12:01 a.m. July 15

Chehalis, Wash. – Annual seasonal burn restrictions will take effect at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 15, 2026, in all unincorporated areas of Lewis County.

In 2025, Lewis County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) adopted standardized annual burn restrictions to provide greater predictability and consistency for residents, property owners and emergency response personnel. Under the policy, which was established via [Resolution 26-189](#), restrictions automatically take effect each year from July 15 through October 15, a period that historically presents elevated wildfire risk due to hot, dry conditions.

The restrictions enacted by the Lewis County Fire Marshal will remain in place through Oct. 15, 2026, unless the BOCC determines conditions warrant lifting the restrictions earlier.

Under the seasonal restrictions, outdoor burning is prohibited on all lands regulated by Lewis County. Recreational campfires remain allowed in designated campgrounds and on private property when constructed and maintained in accordance with county requirements (see Figure 1).

These annual restrictions are intended to reduce wildfire risk, protect lives and property, and assist firefighters and emergency personnel by establishing clear, consistent regulations during the peak fire season.

The burn restrictions apply to applicants who currently hold an open burning permit. The current burning permit expiration date will NOW be 12:01 A.M., Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

The burn restrictions will be in place until October 15, 2026, or until the conditions improve. All land clearing, residential and silvicultural burning will be restricted until further notice.

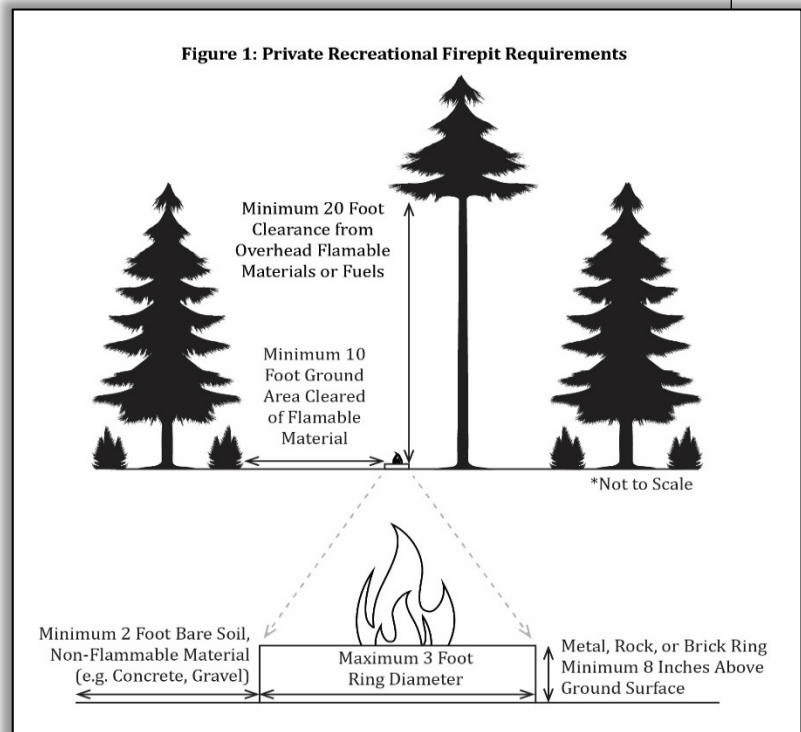
REQUIREMENTS FOR RECREATION CAMPFIRES

Recreational campfires remain allowed in designated campgrounds and on private property when constructed and maintained in accordance with the following county requirements. To comply, campfires must:

Measure no greater than 3 feet in diameter and have a ring constructed of metal, stone or brick 8 inches above surface with a 2-foot-wide area cleared down to exposed soil surrounding the outside of the pit.

Have an area at least 10 feet around it cleared of all flammable material and at least 20 feet of clearance from overhead flammable materials or fuels.

Be attended at all times by a responsible person at least 16 years old with the ability to extinguish the fire with a shovel and a 5-gallon bucket of water or with a connected and charged garden hose.



Be completely extinguished by pouring in water or moist soil and stirring with a shovel until all parts are cool to touch. The use of self-contained camp stoves is encouraged as an alternative.

For further information concerning outdoor burning and/or the restrictions being imposed, please contact Lewis County Fire Marshal Doyle Sanford at 360-740-2696 or visit him in person at the Lewis County Community Development building, located at 125 NW Chehalis Ave. in Chehalis, Wash.

Information about Community Development also can be accessed online at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/departments/community-development/>.