POLICY MANUAL



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Control Fire Burn Operations	December	C15-192
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PURPOSE:

To establish and set forth guidelines for the proper issuance and control of "Fire Permits" issued by authorized County personnel for the purpose of burning of "Brush Piles" or large "Debris Piles". The policy revision is to clearly outline specific requirements or procedures necessary when performing controlled burning operations whereby the activity may cause or impact the amenities of the surrounding properties including residential or commercial uses.

The Policy revision herein shall not restrict or impair those individuals as outlined under the Fire Protection Services Bylaw #1173 from carrying out their responsibilities as noted therein.

The revision shall be considered as an addendum to the existing requirements and obligations for controlled burning as defined under the Fire Protections Services Bylaw #1173 and will be noted as Schedule "A" to the Fire Permit.

PROCEDURES:

- 1. Fire Permits issued for the purpose of the controlled burning of brush piles or large debris piles shall be required to follow specific detailed procedures and controlled operations of the burn as outlined under Schedule "A" and deemed as part of the fire permit.
- 2. Each permit shall be reviewed and validated based on a number of factors including but limited to; location and proximity to other occupied lands, the quantity or volume of debris to be burnt, condition of debris piles, environment and weather conditions and overall site suitability.
- 3. Applications where the location or the condition of the piles are considered to be doubtful or pose concerns of adversely impacting neighboring occupants may require site inspection by the Fire Marshall or Fire Guardian prior to approval and may be deemed non-permitted based on the site evaluation.
- 4. The permit holder shall be responsible for performing all the duties and requirements outlined under the Fire Permit and Schedule "A" as defined. Failure to comply with any portion of the Fire Permit Approval will be considered in violation with Starland County Fire Protection Services Bylaw #1173 and may be subject to those disciplinary actions outlined therein.
- Schedule "A" of the Fire Permit is to be considered as part of the Fire Permit and those
 requirements outlined within may be amended to accommodate or address specific concerns or
 necessary measure deemed by the Fire Marshall or Fire Guardian.



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- 6. For the purpose of ensuring those controlled burning operations undertaken for the burning of brush piles or large debris piles in Starland County are completed accordingly, the noted Schedule "A" document shall accompany all such approvals and shall consist, but not limited, to the following precautionary and restrictive measures as prescribed herein.
 - A) The burn area must be properly safe guarded and protected from spreading to other locations or other properties.
 - B) All burn piles shall be considered ready for efficient burning to ensure effective and timely burning of debris. This will require the material piles to e properly desiccated or cured for burning, piles are the be clean of earth of soil materials, pushed or windrowed piles to not exceed 60 meters in length and separated by 8-meter firebreaks.
 - C) Burn piles shall not exceed a total surface area of 1,200 square meters.
 - D) No more than one pile or aggregate total of 1,200 square meters of material to be burnt at one time.
 - E) Burning operations are to be kept to a manageable and controllable degree in order that the burn can be carried out in a timely manner and completed within the same day of ignition. Each individual burn site shall be terminated at the end of the same day and must be extinguished. This can be completed through burning of the smoldering debris or by applying water.
 - F) The permit holder must have sufficient equipment onsite to perform the necessary completion operations of the burn as outlined herein.
 - G) The permit holder shall obtain utility locate approvals and clearance prior to commencement of the urning operations to accommodate debris cleanup. Copies of their documentation to be provided to the Fire Marshall or Fire Guardian prior to validation of the fire permit.
 - H) The permit holder hereby understands and acknowledges the terms, responsibilities and obligations of the approval and to maintain complete control of the fire operations at all times.
 - I) The Fire Marshall may revoke or terminate the Fire Permit at any time if it is determined that any portion or part of the conditions of the approval have been found in noncompliance, or for any other reason deemed necessary.

Policy Amendments:

July 20, 2022 (C22-188) – Updated with new Fire Bylaw, Bylaw #1173



Flax Straw Fire Burn Operations and Procedures

Schedule "A"

FIRE PERMIT # 00121

- The noted Schedule "A" is an addendum to the "Fire Permit" as described and is in addition
 to those obligations and requirements as outlined therein. The directive is to ensure the
 safety of all properties against the spread of fire and ensure the amenities of the
 surrounding properties are not adversely impacted by those operations included under this
 conditional approval.
- 2. The burn area must be properly safe guarded and protected from spreading to other locations or other properties by mechanical applications or environmental restraints such as snow cover.
- 3. To facilitate a safe and controlled burn operation, all burn piles must maintain a minimum separation distance from the following improvements and limited within those restricted areas as follows:
 - a. No Burning within 50 meters from a primary or secondary road or right-of-way and 25 meters from all other roadways.
 - b. No Burning within 100 meters of a residence not occupied by the applicant including all urban centers or residential properties.
 - c. Burning within the "Restricted Area" will be limited to a maximum of 10 bales or 50 cubic meters of material to be burnt at one time upon extinguishing.
 - d. Restricted Area from Highway or Secondary Road is 100 meters.
 - e. Restricted Area from Residence or Urban center is 200 meters.



- 4. All burn piles shall be determined ready for efficient burning to ensure effective and timely burning of debris.
- Wind conditions and direction of smoke plume shall be considered prior to ignition to minimize risk and adverse effects to neighboring properties. No burning shall be allowed when wind speed is in excess of 25 kph.
- 6. No more than 50 piles/bales or aggregate total of 250 cubic meters of material to be burnt at a single time. Consecutive burn operations may be allowed upon completion and extinguishment of the initial burn within and in accordance with the same day restriction.
- 7. Burning operations are to be kept to a manageable and controllable degree in order that the burn can carried out in a timely manner and completed within the same day of ignition and only during day-light hours. Each individual burn site shall be terminated at the end of the same day and must be extinguished by dark. This can be completed through several suitable methods including burying of the smoldering debris, cultivation/leveling or by applying water.
- 8. The permit holder must have sufficient equipment and supervision onsite to perform the necessary operations of the burn as outlined herein.
- 9. The permit holder hereby understands and acknowledges the terms, responsibilities, and obligations of the approval as outlined herein.
- 10. The Fire Marshall may revoke or terminate the Fire Permit at any time if it is determined that any portion or part of the conditions of the approval have been found in non-compliance, or for any other reason deemed necessary.
- 11. Permit Holder agrees to indemnify and save harmless Starland County and its representatives from all liability arising out of temporary operations authorized by the issuance of this permit.

Effective Date:	, 2021	Expires:	, 2021
Permittee:		Dated:	, 2021
		Dated:	, 2021

Fire Guardian or Appointee