

Clear The Air... Facts About Open Burning

Human Health Effects

- Smoke particulates from burning are considered the greatest air pollution problem in British Columbia.
- Wood smoke contains highly toxic gases such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, dioxins and furans.
- Up to 5,000 premature deaths per year in Canada can be attributed to air pollutants.
- Wood smoke worsens pre-existing heart and respiratory diseases, especially in pre-school aged children and the elderly.



Environmental Effects

- Pollutants released during burning, contribute to climate change; locally, this leads to more frequent and/or severe weather events such as droughts and high-intensity rainfall.
- Dioxins and furans released during burning eventually settle on crops and in lakes and streams. These chemicals will enter the food chain and end up in our food!

Equipment & Suppliers

Chipping and grinding services are provided by the following companies:

- Coast Environmental Ltd. (250-715-0954) (Duncan)
- Central Landscape Supplies Ltd. (250-743-9989) (Cobble Hill)
- MacNutt Enterprises (250-714-1112) (Nanaimo)

Landclearing debris can be dropped off at the following facilities:

- Coast Environmental Ltd. (250-715-0954) (Duncan)
- Fisher Road Recycling (250-733-2108) (Cobble Hill)
- DBL Disposal Service Ltd. (250-741-8923) (Nanaimo)

Air curtain or trench burners are supplied by the following companies:

- Mt. Sicker Logging (250-746-1918) (Trench Burner Only) (Duncan)
- Central Landscape Supplies Ltd. (250-743-9989) (Cobble Hill)
- MacNutt Enterprises (250-714-1112)(Nanaimo)

Questions?

For more information, or to obtain copies of Bylaw No. 2020 - *Landclearing Management Regulation Bylaw, 2009*, visit www.cleartheaircowichan.ca



175 Ingram Street, Duncan BC V9L 1N8
CVRD Recycling Hotline 250-746-2540
or toll free 1-800-665-3955
www.CVRDrecycles.bc.ca

Clear the Air, Cowichan!

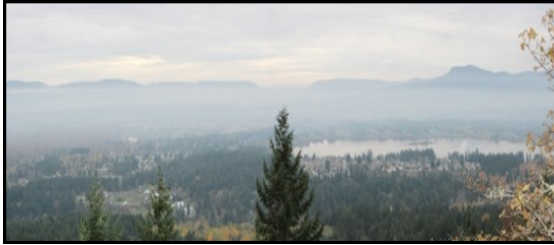
Bylaw 2020: Landclearing Management Regulation Bylaw



Open Burning of Landclearing Debris: Information and Alternatives



Open Burning of Landclearing Debris* is **BANNED** in all CVRD Electoral Areas



Landclearing debris should be chipped, ground and reused. If no suitable alternatives are available, landclearing debris may be burned **ONLY** with the use of an **air curtain or trench burner if the following conditions are met:**

- 1) Burns have been registered with Ministry of Forests and Range prior to ignition. Call 1-888-797-1717 to register
- 2) Burn registration forms have been filled out through the CVRD Public Safety Department. For more information call 250-746-2561 or visit the CVRD website.
- 3) The Provincial Ventilation Index is rated as 'Good'. To check the Venting Index, check online at: www.bcairquality.ca or call 1-888-281-2992

**Bylaw applies to three or more landclearing piles; any landclearing piles that are larger than 2m x 3m; or any machine-stacked landclearing piles.*

**Violators face fines of up to \$2,000 per offence, per day.*

**Report Infractions! Contact CVRD Bylaw Enforcement 250-746-2500. After hours and week-ends call the Bylaw Enforcement Hotline 250-746-2600*

Clear The Air... Alternatives to Open Burning

Organic material that is removed during landclearing is a valuable resource. It can be turned into compost, mulch and wood chips, which improve soil quality and support the future regrowth of plants.

Composting



The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) provides **FREE drop-off of yard and garden material year round** at all of its community recycling centres and Central Landscape Supplies Ltd. in Cobble Hill. This material is locally recycled into compost. Accepted materials include: grass, leaves, shrubs and branches that are no greater than 7.5 centimeters (3 inches) in diameter.

Chipping & Grinding



Trees, stumps, and branches can be chipped and used onsite as mulch to apply on gardens, control invasive plants, or left to decompose over time and provide natural habitat.

Stump grinding is a service that reduces the stump to just below ground level, avoiding the need to burn or use expensive excavating equipment. It also leaves the property intact, reducing the need for fill. Trucking in new material can be costly compared to chipping and distributing existing materials onsite.

Grinding or chipping is an excellent option to avoid burning. It can also decrease your carbon footprint and save you money!

Air Curtain Technology



If burning is required, air curtains must be used. Air curtains, also known as trench burners, burn vegetative matter in an enclosed space, with an open top, over which a high velocity 'curtain' of air is directed. Exposure to a constant curtain of air allows for a high temperature efficient burn that significantly reduces combustion time and smoke generation. Air curtains, or trench burners, function as a pollution control device and reduce the particulate matter emitted from an open burn. The result is a very clean and efficient burn.

**See back for details on local service providers*