

# Outdoor Burning

**Outdoor burning in Marble Falls is permitted by permit only.**

## **Permit procedure**

1. Contact the Fire Department at 830-693-4060.
2. A representative of Marble Falls Fire Rescue will inspect the burn location. A permit will be issued or denied based on safety factors at the time.
3. The initiation of burning shall commence no earlier than one hour after sunrise. Burning shall be completed on the same day not later than one hour before sunset, and shall be attended by a responsible party at all times during the active burn phase when the fire is progressing. In cases where residual fires and/or smoldering objects continue to emit smoke after this time, such areas shall be extinguished if the smoke from these areas has the potential to create a nuisance or traffic hazard condition. In no case shall the extent of the burn area be allowed to increase after this time.
4. All conditions of the permit must be met.
5. The permit may be revoked at any time for cause.
6. A citation may be issued for failure to follow state and local laws, code and/or ordinances.

## **Outdoor Burning Safety Tips**

- Check weather conditions for dry, windy or other poor burning conditions.
- Burn ONLY leaves, straw, limbs or other yard debris, never plastics or garbage.
- Never use gasoline or other flammables to start your fire.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Have a garden hose or some other means to extinguish and control the fire.
- Completely extinguish the fire prior to dark.
- Call 911 IMMEDIATELY if you need assistance. DO NOT WAIT.
- Questions about Outdoor Burning? Contact the Marble Falls Fire Rescue at 830-693-4060.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rule for outdoor burning.

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/legal/rules/rules/pdflib/111b.pdf>

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, The outdoor burning Guide

[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/files/rg-049.pdf\\_4127821.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/files/rg-049.pdf_4127821.pdf)

Burn permits will be issued under the following guidelines and conditions.

1. Only natural materials shall be burned, Electrical insulation, plastics, non-wood construction, or demolition materials, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, and items containing natural or synthetic rubber shall **not** be burned.
2. Burning shall begin no earlier than one hour after sunrise and shall be completed no later than one hour before sunset.
3. Burning shall not be conducted during periods of actual or predicted persistent low-level atmospheric temperatures.
4. Burning shall not be allowed if wind speed is less than 6 mph or more than 15 mph.
5. The location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of any structure.
6. Burning shall be located far enough away from roads so that smoke will not interfere with normal traffic flow, and if at any time the burning causes or may tend to cause smoke to blow onto or across a road or highway, it is the responsibility of the person initiating the burn to cease burning.
7. Burning must be conducted downwind of or at least 300 feet from any structure, or structure containing sensitive receptors located on adjacent properties unless prior written approval is obtained from the affected occupant.
8. Wind direction and other meteorological conditions are such that smoke and pollutants will not cause adverse effects to any public roadway, off site structures containing sensitive receptors, such as people with respiratory problems, sensitive vegetation, or livestock, or anything negatively affected by smoke or heat.
9. Burning shall be attended at all times by persons with a means of calling the fire department and a water hose connected to a water supply or other fire extinguishing equipment readily available for use. Such as, but not limited to: front-end loader, road grader.

Any unapproved deviation from an issued burn permit may result in a citation and summons being issued requiring the responsible party to appear in Municipal Court. The person conducting the burn will take full responsibility for any damages, injuries, or litigation as a result of the burn. The person conducting the burn may be liable to the City of Marble Falls for the reimbursement of any expenses, including, but not limited to, equipment, supplies, material, and over-time incurred by the City of Marble Falls in the controlling and/or extinguishment of any fire resulting from or involved with the permitted burn. The City of Marble Falls and Marble Falls Fire Rescue are not responsible or liable for any damages or injuries caused by any permitted burn.