



# CITY OF BELEN GUIDE TO RESTRICTED OPEN BURNING

CHAPTER 8.20 OF THE BELEN MUNICIPAL CODE  
BELEN FIRE DEPARTMENT NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER: (505) 966-2714



## BURN PERMIT INFORMATION

Burn permits are issued by the Belen Fire Department, located at 116 S. 6th Street at the SE corner of 6th St & Becker Ave.

Burn permits are valid for 30 days. Once the burn expires, a new permit must be obtained.

ALL burning must take place during valid BURN DAYS. Burning is allowed one hour after sunrise and must extinguished and cold one hour before sunset.

NO BURNING shall take place under windy conditions such as "Red Flag Warning" or "Extreme Fire Weather" or "Fire Weather Watch"

Burn permits may be revoked or suspended with or without public notice dependent on weather conditions.

ALL VIOLATORS will be cited into court for burning on no burn days or without a valid burn permit.

YOU are responsible and liable for any damages incurred or fire suppression costs associated with damage or loss resulting from or caused by your open fire.

DO NOT DELAY calling for help. If, for some reason, the fire should get out of control, call 911 immediately to notify the fire department.

ALWAYS use due regard and extreme caution when open burning to prevent injury or fire loss to yourself, family, neighbors and pets.



**BURN BARRELS  
ARE PROHIBITED**

## MATERIALS THAT CANNOT BE BURNED



- Rubbish, garbage or trash
- Construction or demolition debris
- Used furniture
- Waste oil or oil filters
- Asphalt or tar products
- Treated or painted wood or which has been treated with preservatives
- Any plastic material, PVC, ABS, polystyrene or urethane foam, synthetic fabrics, plastic films or plastic containers
- Rubber or rubber-like products including tires
- Insulated wire
- Railroad ties
- Batteries
- Motor vehicle parts or bodies
- Pathogenic/blood waste
- Asbestos

"Open Burning" is the burning of unwanted materials such as paper, tree branches, brush, leaves, grass clippings, dry weeds, and other vegetative debris where smoke and other emissions are released directly into the air. Materials to be burned shall be dry, readily combustible and placed in a small pile. Open burning must be constantly supervised by a competent adult and extinguished.

Ignition of fire may be through matches, flares or hand-held torches fueled by LP gas or butane. No materials can be burned upon any street, curb, alley, gutter, sidewalk or public way.

## Safe open burning tips . . .

- ⇒ Create a fire break at least ten-feet wide at property lines and around all structures and trees. Burning should also take place 50-feet away from any structure.
- ⇒ Avoid using gasoline, kerosene or a flammable liquid to start the fire because the risk of personal injury is high. Instead, use paper or kindling and progressively add to the pile as needed.
- ⇒ Fires must NEVER be left unattended and be completely extinguished and cold before leaving the area.
- ⇒ Emission reduction techniques include minimizing material to be burned. All material should be completely dry before burning and minimize soil/dirt content in piles.
- ⇒ DO NOT BURN household trash.
- ⇒ You must have fire control or extinguishing tools on hand. You MUST have a water source available or pressurized water can, garden hose, ABC fire extinguisher, shovels, rakes.
- ⇒ Be prepared to extinguish the fire when conditions necessitate. Sudden wind change is how most open burning gets out of control.
- ⇒ Be a good neighbor!!



Anyone wishing to conduct a bonfire, campfire or recreational fire is required to notify the fire chief to obtain a fire permit with special considerations. Contact the fire chief at (505) 966-2710

**VIOLATORS WILL BE CITED  
AND FACE A POSSIBLE  
FINE OR IMPRISONMENT**

**OPEN BURN LINE (505) 866-2036**