
Proper Burning Basics

- *Fires must always be attended until completely out. **Never leave fires unattended***
- *Any burn activity deemed a nuisance by anyone is required to be extinguished.*
- *Always have fire suppression tools and water available.*
- *Burn at least 50 feet away from any structure.*
- *Do not burn when it is windy or there are Red Flag Warnings in effect. (Wind is 15 mph or higher)*
- *Burn when fuels are dry and well aerated. Wet or dirt-covered materials will smolder and create smoke.*
- *Do not burn materials that emit large volumes of smoke, particulates or odors—including wet materials.*
- *You can be held responsible for damages and fire that gets out of control.*

Burn Activities

Within City Limits: Burning within city limits is **prohibited**, except as outlined in this brochure. Including, but not limited to, obtaining a permit from the Caldwell Fire Department and adhering to requirements of the Department of Environmental Quality.

Outside City Limits: Burning outside of the city limits, within Canyon County, is allowed, as long as the rules contained herein and the requirements of the Department of Environment Quality are followed.



Contact Information

Department of Environmental Quality
(DEQ)
208.373.0550
Caldwell Fire Department
208.455.3032
Canyon County Dispatch
208.454.7531

Thank you for burning safely.

Caldwell Fire Department and Rural Fire Protection

The Caldwell Fire Department will be prepared and ready to respond, as we pursue every opportunity to make a better and safer place for the citizens we serve now and in the future

Open “Outdoor” Burning Rules, Requirements and Guidelines



Caldwell Fire Department
310 7th Ave.
Caldwell, ID 83605
Phone: 208.455.3032

Open “Outdoor” Burning Rules, Requirements and Guidelines



Within Caldwell City Limits

Under Caldwell Municipal Code, outdoor burning is PROHIBITED within the city limits, except by permit.

Burn activities allowed by Permit:

- Burning of vegetation on waterway canals or ditches
- Burning of weeds along noncombustible fence lines (i.e., along a chain link fence with steel posts)
- Burning to control and kill noxious weeds (i.e., goatheads)
- Bonfires

Exempt Burn Activities

Cooking fires or controlled ceremonial fires (i.e. a campfire or small firepit) are allowed without a permit as long as they do not exceed three feet in diameter and two feet in height and does not cause a nuisance or hazard.

Exception: Commercial properties require a burn permit for any burning activity.

To Obtain a Permit

Contact the Caldwell Fire Department at 208.455.3032. An inspection of the site will be performed prior to issuance of any permits. A fee will be collected for burn permits. Permits are usually issued for a two week period.



Caldwell Rural Fire Protection District, Outside Caldwell City Limits (Canyon County)

No permit is required for outdoor burning of natural materials (agricultural burning, branches, tree limbs, leaves, etc.)

No permit or fee associated with allowed rural burns .

You must follow Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requirements and you must call DEQ's recorded line at 208.373.0313 to ensure the air quality is such as to allow open burning. Burning is not allowed during red flag warnings or winding conditions.



YOU MUST ALSO CONTACT CANYON COUNTY DISPATCH (NON-EMERGENCY) AT 208.454.7531 PRIOR TO BURNING. You will be asked when, where, and what you plan to burn. This ensures the fire department will not be dispatched for allowed burning.

What Cannot be Burned

Burn barrels or burning of trash is explicitly prohibited.

Burning of the following materials is prohibited.

- Household solid waste or garbage
- Motor vehicles and their parts
- Tires and other rubber products
- Dead animals or parts thereof
- Plastics
- Asphalt, tarpaper, waste, or petroleum products
- Lumber or timbers treated with preservatives
- Construction waste materials such as sheetrock, flooring, insulation, or anything containing asbestos
- Paint, solvent, or other chemicals (i.e. motor oils, diesel, gasoline, etc.)
- Insulated wire
- Pathogenic wastes or infectious wastes, including manure or feces
- Any other material that would otherwise be allowed under this article, but is determined to be a nuisance, hazard, or source of air pollution.
- Any material that is restricted, as specified in IDAPA rules for the control of air pollution 16.01.01.

