

# Noxious Weed Abatement Fires in Spokane County

Effective May 1, 2009

A message from Spokane County Noxious Weed Control Board and Spokane Clean Air

## Background

The Spokane County Noxious Weed Abatement Board (Weed Board) administers a noxious weed burning program by delegation from the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (Spokane Clean Air). Noxious weed abatement fires are for the sole purpose of disposing of noxious weeds identified on the State Noxious Weed List, Chapter 16-750 WAC.

## Permit and fee

A written permit must be obtained from the Weed Board before noxious weed burning may occur. A noxious weed abatement fire permit application must be completed and submitted to the Weed Board 10 days prior to the first proposed burn date. A permit is valid for 30 days. A non-refundable fee of \$20.00 must accompany the application. The submittal of the fee does not guarantee approval of the application. If a permit is issued, it will include specific conditions for burning. The Weed Board determines if burning is a desired or proven method to eliminate the identified noxious weed. To obtain a noxious weed fire permit application, contact the Weed board by email at [weedboard@spokanecounty.org](mailto:weedboard@spokanecounty.org) or call (509) 477-5777. For more information, visit our website at [www.spokanecounty.org/weedboard](http://www.spokanecounty.org/weedboard).

## Please review the following information prior to submitting a permit application.

- Burning is not allowed inside Urban Growth Areas or inside the No Burn Area established by Spokane Clean Air.
- A site investigation may be performed prior to issuing a permit.

## Permit requests may be denied...

Below are common reasons permits are denied:

- The Weed Board determines that fire is not a desired or proven method to eliminate the weeds proposed for burning.
- Smoke impacts on neighbors and regional airshed are likely to occur.
- Material to be burned is within 50 feet of a structure.
- Burning is proposed in an area where it is not possible to provide adequate fire breaks to prevent fire from spreading to areas not permitted to be burned.
- The weedy area to be burned falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources or an agricultural burning program.

## Common Permit Conditions...

- Burning is restricted to specified hours during the day.
- Burning material other than natural vegetation is prohibited.
- Burning is prohibited during unfavorable wind directions.
- Persons intending to burn under a valid permit must contact Spokane Clean Air's Burn Line prior to burning.
- The fire must be extinguished if it creates a nuisance.
- Burning material hauled from other properties is prohibited.

Failure to comply with applicable regulations and permit conditions may result in enforcement action.

For information about other types of burning permits, burn curtailments, current air quality conditions, or any other air quality-related topic, contact Spokane Clean Air by email at [www.spokanecleanair.org](http://www.spokanecleanair.org), or call (509) 477-4727.