



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Department of Resources and Economic Development**  
**Division of Forests and Lands**  
**FOREST PROTECTION BUREAU**



**COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING FIRE PERMITS**

1. What materials can be burned with a fire permit?

***Brush and wood cannot exceed 5 inches in diameter. No household waste, treated wood or composite materials may be burned.***

2. How close to a structure can I kindle my fire?

***A category I fire must be at least 25' from structures and category II or greater fire must be at least 50' from structures.***

3. When can I kindle my fire?

***A category I fire may be kindled with a permit at any time whether raining or not. A category II and category III fire may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining.***

4. If I started my category II or III fire while it was raining and it stops raining do I have to extinguish the fire?

***Yes! The fire must be extinguished and you will need to wait until after 5:00 pm to kindle it again.***

5. Do you own the land where you plan to burn?

***If not, you must have written landowner approval in order to receive a fire permit or furnish proof that you are a legal agent for the landowner.***

6. Can I burn material from the demolition of buildings?

***The NH Department of Environmental Services has regulations that must be followed regarding the testing and abatement of asbestos prior to demolition. Only clean, untreated and non-contaminated wood may be burned.***

7. Do you have adequate resources to control and completely extinguish your fire?

***The permittee shall have sufficient water, tools and personnel necessary to control and completely extinguish the fire. A buried fire is not an extinguished fire.***

8. Can I use tires or tubes to start my fire?

***No! This would be a serious violation of NH DES Air Resources Division rules and regulations.***

9. How old do I have to be in order to obtain a fire permit?

***You must be at least 18 years old to obtain a fire permit.***

***Note: Proper identification for the purpose of age and residency identification must be presented at time of permit application.***