



**BOB HOWARD**  
FIRE CHIEF

# PICKENS COUNTY FIRE / RESCUE

## OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

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**CURTIS CLARK**  
FIRE MARSHAL

## Pickens County Residential Open Burning Guidelines

### Environmental Protection Division Open Burning Ban

May 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>

Open Burning Allowed October 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>

- ❖ All burning operations shall comply with the “Rules for Air Quality Control” chapter 391-3-1 as written and amended by the Environmental Protection Division and these standards.
- ❖ Homeowners or residents of single-family residential property are authorized to have open fires provided all of the following requirements are met:
  - A “Burn Permit” must be obtained from Georgia Forestry before burning is started. This may be obtained by calling the local forestry unit at 706-692-4801, district office at 1-887-652-2876 or on line at [www.gatrees.org](http://www.gatrees.org).
  - Burn permits are for one day only, you must call each day for a new permit.
  - The fire(s) must be on the property occupied by the person receiving the permit.
  - Only natural vegetation can be destroyed by burning. “Natural vegetation” includes sticks, leaves, grass, pine straw, tree trimmings, tree parts six inches and less in diameter, etc. Burning of cardboard, treated wood, materials containing petroleum products, i.e., tires, plastics, wire insulation, roofing shingles, household garbage etc., is not allowed.
  - No vegetation pile shall be larger than six feet in diameter by two feet in height.
  - No burning is allowed within 50 feet of a structure.
  - No burning is allowed within 25 feet of a wooded area.
  - All open fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person 16 years of age or older. A rake, shovel, or similar hand tool is to be immediately available.
  - No more than two burning piles are allowed at any one time.
  - Fire must be out or extinguished before sunset.
  - Failure to comply with these rules which results in an uncontrolled fire or a valid complaint by a nearby property owner(s) or resident that requires the response of the county fire service will result in the fire being extinguished immediately.