

January 16, 2010

Volunteer Checklist

The volunteer responsible for the open air burn is:

- Qualified because of knowledge, training and experience to supervise the open air burn.
- Has read and understands the Open Air Burning Safety Protocol.
- Has knowledge of any potential or actual danger to health or safety at the open air burn site.
- Is eighteen years old or older

Volunteer name _____ Phone: _____

E-mail _____

Filled out by staff member _____

Date _____

Open Air Burning Safety Protocol

- 1) Fire Containment: The fire circle should have a maximum diameter of 60 cm (24"). A cooking fire should be kept small so as not to burn the food.
- 2) The fire must be built on a non-combustible surface. The fire circle should be defined with bricks, stones, or banked sand to ensure that the wood stays within the circle, thereby containing the fire.
- 3) An "Open Air Burn" shall have a maximum fuel volume of 0.61 metres x 0.61 metres x 0.61 metres height (2 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet), that is set and maintained solely for the purpose of cooking food, providing warmth or recreational enjoyment and where:
 - The open air burn shall be constructed on a non combustible surface;
 - The site of the open air burn shall be confined to non combustible containers, or a pit constructed of bare rock, sand or mineral soil;
 - The open air burn is set at least 3.04 metres (10 feet) from any combustible structures or objects;
 - The space above the open air burn is at least 3.04 metres (10 feet) from vegetation and the drip line (overhanging branches) of trees.
- 4) Safety equipment: There must be two buckets of water and one bucket of sand at hand to put the fire out fast if necessary, except in winter. In winter, have two buckets of water close enough to the fire that the water doesn't freeze, and also have a bucket of snow. Sand is usually frozen solid in winter; snow works better.
- 5) There must be a shovel, which may be used to turn logs or rearrange the fire in order to damp it down or build it up. Then use it to stir the ashes to wet them evenly when extinguishing the fire.
- 6) Cooking equipment: Use a solid trivet and metal grill or metal spit.

Make sure any grill or pot is secure and stable while set over the fire.

7) Extinguishing the fire: Note - a bucket of sand is safer for extinguishing a fire that is still very hot (no steam). Suffocate the coals by putting sand on them, followed by water, or put water on the coals, stirring them with the shovel to ensure coals are extinguished. Add more sand as required to suffocate the embers. Make sure coals and ashes are cold to the touch.

8) Post fire, scrape up the coals, ashes and unused fuel and remove them from the site. If a depression was made for the fire, fill the circle with the soil that was removed. Use of a cooking appliance such as a third-barrel requires less clean-up and therefore facilitates a no-trace campfire.

9) Fires are not permitted when a smog alert has been declared, when wind speed exceeds 25 kilometres per hour, or when rain or fog is present or weather conditions prevent the ready dispersion of smoke.

