

Essential rules for backyard burning



Find out what the June 2020 changes mean for you.

What are the new rules?

To reduce air pollution and protect the health of our environment and community, there are changes to the outdoor burning rules for the Bay of Plenty. **No properties, urban or rural, can light a fire within 100m of a neighbouring dwelling house.**

Are there any exceptions?

Recreational or cultural fires will still be allowed, for example braziers, BBQs, pizza ovens, smokers and hangi, provided offensive or dangerous discharges are minimised. For rural production land, you can apply for resource consent to burn vegetative material within 100m of another dwelling house.



Why are outdoor burning rules important?

The burning of materials like plastics, rubber, chemicals and household rubbish is prohibited by the Regional Natural Resources Plan because there is a high risk of releasing harmful particles.

These contaminants may cause serious health effects in people and animals, such as cancers, respiratory disease and birth defects.

Looking for other ways to get rid of your waste?

Visit our online Waste and Recycling Directory for more options on reducing what goes to landfill, www.boprc.govt.nz/wasteandrecycling

How can I get a rural fire permit?

Fire permits from Fire and Emergency New Zealand are different to resource consents issued by the Regional Council. In some cases, you may need both and you will need to check this, before lighting the fire. For details on how to apply for a resource consent, visit our website www.boprc.govt.nz/consentprocess

If you want to light an open air fire at your rural property that complies with the 100m rule, you need to find out what the current fire season is and whether you need a fire permit. Fire permits are issued by Fire and Emergency New Zealand and you can find more information on their website www.checkitsalright.nz. No matter what the fire season is and whether you have a permit, you still need to follow any Council bylaws and Regional Council requirements relating to smoke nuisance and the burning of prohibited materials.

For more information

Contact Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Pollution Hotline: **0800 884 883**

Website: www.boprc.govt.nz/airpollution

Email: info@boprc.govt.nz

General Enquiries: **0800 884 880**

See Rules AQ R6, AQ R8a/8b and AQ R10 of Proposed Plan Change 13 (Air Quality) to the Regional Natural Resources Plan: www.boprc.govt.nz/air-plan-change

