

Media Advisory – Aug. 28, 2008

Contact: Christopher Schwarzen

Office: 425-388-3883

Email: Christopher.Schwarzen@snoco.org

Outdoor residential burning ban canceled

A countywide burn ban issued in July will be lifted Tuesday, Sept. 2.

All outdoor residential burn permits, including permits issued by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency for agricultural burning, were suspended mid-summer due to concerns about dangerously dry conditions.

Conditions have improved, and individuals who currently have a residential burn permit may now proceed. Burn permits are required and issued by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office as well as participating local fire districts.

Residential Burn Permits, which cost \$30, will only be issued for parcels located outside the Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) and established No Burn Zones that are within fire protection districts of unincorporated Snohomish County.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to have the permit on site at all times. Permission to burn under a permit may be suspended or cancelled without notice by any of the following agencies: Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Natural Resources and any other federal, state or county agency with jurisdictional powers.

Recreational fires continue to be allowed and do not require a burn permit. Approved fire pits must be constructed of a noncombustible material such as concrete or metal and need to be a minimum of 15 feet from structures. A recreational fire by definition is a cooking fire or campfire using charcoal or firewood. These fires may not be greater than three feet in diameter and/or two feet in height. Water must be immediately available.

As directed by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA), all land-clearing burning remains prohibited in unincorporated Snohomish County.

For updated information, contact the Outdoor Burning Information Hotline at 425-388-3508 or the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office at 425-388-3557.

###