

## **SECHELT FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE OG 7.03**

- SUBJECT:** THE ISSUANCE OF CLASS "A" (LAND CLEARING TYPE) FIRE PERMITS.
- ISSUED:** 1997 / 03 / 21 Last amended: 2010 / 01 / 05
- PURPOSE:** To provide guidance to Fire Dept. staff and to members of the public as to the regulations in place that regulates the Open Burning of land clearing debris and for back yard burning.
- POLICY:** The Sechelt Fire Department will issue **FIRE SAFETY** burning permits subject to compliance with Provincial smoke control regulations.
- PROCEDURE:** The procedure for obtaining a class "A" fire permit is fairly involved as the issuance is subject to requirements contained within Provincial regulations. The main points that require compliance are as follows.

### **B. C. Waste Management Act:** (Open Burning Smoke Control Regulations)

- Set back requirements:** You must ensure that the debris to be burnt is a **minimum of 100 meters from neighboring residences or business and 500 meters from a school in session, hospital or institution.** Inability to meet these set backs will require a permit from the Waste Management Branch.
- Smoke release period:** Although the Fire Dept. may issue a fire safety permit for a period of up to 2 months, the permit holder may **only burn for 72 hrs.** at a time. This must be followed by a **15 day smoke free period.** The District of Sechelt is currently designated as a Class "A" area for the purposes of the Waste Management Act.
- Weather conditions:** Permittee's must ensure that the ventilation index is "good" the day the fire is lit, and "good" or "fair" on other days that open burning takes place. **The local V.I. must be obtained by calling 1 888 281 2992**

## **The Local Conservation Officers are charged with the enforcement of the “Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation”.**

**Backyard burning:** The District of Sechelt has prohibited back yard burning effective January 1 2006. This change was implemented for smoke management reasons only and is not regulated or enforced by the fire department. The District of Sechelt Bylaw Enforcement Officer has the authority and responsibility to enforce this Municipal Bylaw.

**Camp Fires:** Campfires are fires for cooking or for warmth and would typically be used for a hot dog or marshmallow roast, they are allowed year round unless banned for safety reasons by the fire department. No permit is required for this type of fire.

**Summary:** The above information must only be considered as a guide to the main points of these regulations. A complete guide to the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation can be obtained through this Office, or the Government Agent.

# SECHLT FIRE DEPARTMENT CLASS "A" BURNING PERMIT

PERMIT # 20 \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PERMIT: FROM: Y/\_\_\_\_ M/\_\_\_\_ D/\_\_\_\_

TO: Y/\_\_\_\_ M/\_\_\_\_ D/\_\_\_\_

**You MUST CALL BEFORE YOU BURN:**

**604-740-2595**

RENEWAL DATE #1: TO: Y/\_\_\_\_ M/\_\_\_\_ D/\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL DATE #2: TO: Y/\_\_\_\_ M/\_\_\_\_ D/\_\_\_\_

Authority is hereby granted to Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Of Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Owners Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Owners Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee's Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell / Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

To set fire on the following lands (hereinafter referred to as the "site"):

\_\_\_\_\_

The following shall be provided by the permit holder, at the site, during light up and until the fire is extinguished:

a) \_\_\_\_\_ adult (s) persons equipped with suitable fire fighting equipment to control the fire.

b) The following equipment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ on site while fire is burning.

Permit holders are solely responsible for damage or nuisance resulting from clearing fires and for suppressing any escaped fires. **Complaints from residents will be referred directly to the permit holder and or representative.** Failure to comply with the conditions of this permit may result in extinguishment of the fire and any costs resulting from this extinguishment and or investigation of a complaint will be borne by the permit holder.

Sechelt Fire Department will not be responsible for Policing Class "A" burns other than to extinguish a fire that threatens to get out of control or is depositing sparks on adjacent structures or other areas that the Fire Dept. considers hazardous.

**The possession of this permit shall not be construed as to exempt the permit holder from complying with the Provincial Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation. Ensure the vent index is appropriate for burning.**

A copy of this permit shall be forwarded to the local Conservation Officer for their information, records and enforcement of open burning smoke control regulations.

Signature of Owner or Representative below indicates they have received, understand and agree to the conditions of this permit.

Owner or Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspection Fee Paid \_\_\_\_\_

ISSUING OFFICER: \_\_\_\_\_ ISSUE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_