



BURN REQUIREMENTS TRENCH BURNING

****OUTDOOR BURNING IS PROHIBITED DURING A TARRANT COUNTY INITIATED BURN BAN ****

Persons wishing to conduct a Trench Burn should be aware of State and Local Regulations that apply to Trench Burning. State Requirements are addressed in a document entitled “Outdoor Burning in Texas”, published by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, (formerly the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission). This information can be accessed online at www.tceq.state.tx.us and searching under available publications. Local requirements from the City of Keller are covered in the 2015 Edition of the International Fire Code, Section 307 (local amendments apply). Daily updates on outdoor burning are provided at <http://www.cityofkeller.com/index.aspx?page=1306>

Please check this website prior to requesting a burn. You may also check www.noaa.gov for future forecasts.

The Fire Code requires that all persons who wish to conduct a trench burn are to complete a permit application form from the TCEQ and obtain a burning permit. Before a permit can be issued, you must have a signed form from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. A fire department official will inspect the premises to verify information pertaining to the permit application is accurate and correct. In instances where laws or regulations are enforceable by any other governmental entity having jurisdiction, joint approval shall be obtained. Permits shall be kept on the premises designated therein at all times and shall be posted in a conspicuous locations on the premises, or shall be kept on the premises in a location designated by the Fire Marshal. Permits shall be subject to inspection at all times by an officer of the fire or police department or other persons authorized by the Fire Marshal. Permits may be revoked at any time if it is determined by the Fire Marshal, (or her designee) that any conditions or limitations set forth in the permit have been violated, which may result in fines or additional fees issued by the fire or police department.

The authority to conduct a Trench Burn under the regulations listed below does not exempt or excuse any person responsible from the consequences, damages, or injuries resulting from the burning. It does not exempt or excuse anyone from complying with all other applicable laws or ordinances, regulations, and orders of governmental entities having jurisdiction, even though the burning is otherwise conducted in compliance with the regulations listed below.

Review the following regulations and then contact the Fire Department to request a burn permit; permits can be applied for at the Permit counter in Development Services, 1100 Bear Creek Pkwy, 1st Floor. A Fire Inspector will set up an appointment to conduct a site inspection. A copy of the permit application and inspection must remain available on site at all times. Permits are issued “per occurrence” and are good for 30 days.

Trench Burn Checklist

- ✓ Require a permit, \$50.00 fee.
- ✓ Inspection of burn site and an Air Curtain Incinerator (trench fan) is required.
- ✓ Burning shall commence no earlier than **one hour after sunrise and shall be completed on the same day one hour before sunset.**
- ✓ Shall be conducted in air curtain trenches. **Under no circumstances will the trench be reloaded with material and left unattended.**
- ✓ Trench Burns shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.
- ✓ A water truck and/or bulldozer shall be required on site and available for immediate utilization should extinguishment be required.
- ✓ Trench shall not be less than 300 feet from any structure
- ✓ The use of ignitable liquids to initiate the burn are PROHIBITED
- ✓ A phone shall be available to call 9-1-1 if the fire gets out of control.

Trench burning is not permitted on ozone action days, when “HIGH” fire weather threat index is forecasted, or a burn ban is in effect. Conducting an outdoor burn during any of the above conditions is a citable offense.

If a complaint is received by Keller Fire-Rescue that your burn is aggravating the sensitive receptors, which includes humans and livestock, as well as “sensitive live vegetation” such as nursery plants, mushrooms under cultivation, and plants raised for pharmaceutical production or used in lab experiments, you will be asked by the Fire Marshal or her representative to immediately extinguish the fire. **Failure to comply with the request to extinguish the fire may result in a citation being issued to the individual(s) conducting the burn.** For a complete definition of “sensitive receptors see 30 TAC 111.203(7).

Please contact us if you have any questions or to request a site inspection.

Debra Crafton, Fire Marshal
817-743-4472 dcrafton@kellerfd.com

Daniel Hughes, Fire Inspector
817-743-4470 dhughes@cityofkeller.com