

If you must burn land clearing debris:

All burning must be in compliance with the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation (OBSCR), Ministry of Forests (MOF), and local regulations

1. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

You may only burn material that can not be recycled!

2. Apply for a burn permit

Obtained from the local fire department.

3. Forestry burns require a burn reference number

Ministry of Forests: **1-888-797-1717**

4. Check the ventilation index

Ministry of Environment: **1-888-281-2992**

Ventilation must be GOOD on the first day and GOOD or FAIR on subsequent days.

Note: The Sunshine Coast follows the Central Vancouver Island Forecast

Help our environment!

Recycle woody debris instead of burning OR transport material to an approved burn site.

Approved Burn Sites

Fiedler Bros. Contracting Ltd.

Serving Gibsons and Sechelt

Phone: **604 886-2663/ 604 689-1282**

Debris is burnt according to Ministry specifications and smoke is reduced by high efficiency burn systems.

There are NO other approved burn sites on the Sunshine Coast. DO NOT use illegal burn sites

Never burn prohibited materials!

Tires, plastics, drywall, tarpaper, rubber, demolition and construction waste, treated lumber, asphalt products or manure.

Tips for a smoke free fire:

Comply with government regulations

- This reduces the amount of waste, and decreases the amount of smoke and hazardous pollution.

Burn dry wood

- Seasoned wood produces less smoke

Ensure your fire is hot

- A small, hot fire reduces smoke

Never burn prohibited materials!

- Burning garbage produces toxic smoke

Time your burn

- Smoke disperses best in the afternoon
- Never burn before 11am or after dusk – ventilation is always poor at night

Questions/Comments/Concerns

Ministry of Environment

10470 – 152 Street
Surrey, British Columbia V3R 0Y3
Telephone: 604 582-5286

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Alternatives to Burning

Land clearing options on the Sunshine Coast



Do your part to reduce open burning!

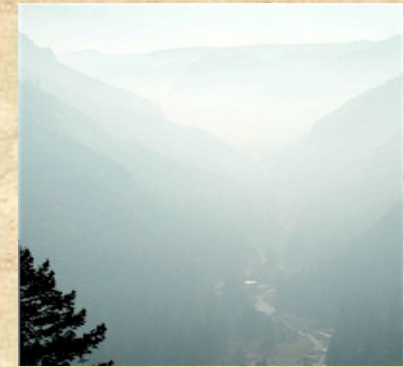
The rate of land development on the Sunshine Coast is very high. When land is cleared, land clearing debris is often burnt. This practice impacts human health and visibility. Please use alternatives to burning!



Here is an example of chipping on the Sunshine Coast. Chipping is a good alternative to burning because there it reduces air pollution and wood chips can be used beneficially in the community. See inside for more options.

Clean the Air Make a difference

We all share the air, and our health and lifestyle can be significantly affected by air quality. Efforts to reduce burning make a significant difference to air quality.



Do your part. Clean the air, and protect yourself and others from negative health and lifestyle impacts.



Help the environment - and your health!

Open burning is harmful to the environment and human health. Even at extremely low levels, smoke contaminants have been shown to impact human health. Smoke is particularly harmful to children and the elderly. There is no safe level of exposure to smoke.

Contaminants in Smoke:

- Particulate matter
- Carbon monoxide
- Formaldehyde
- Nitrogen oxides
- Sulphur oxides
- Volatile organic compounds
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

Which can trigger:

- Eye and nose irritation
- Lung and throat irritation
- Respiratory illness
- Asthma
- Chronic heart and lung disease
- Aggravated heart disease
- An increased incidence of cancer



Please help us reduce emissions of these contaminants into the air. These contaminants are of concern because they have harmful effects on humans and the environment. Some of these compounds are toxic and are known carcinogens.

Particulate Matter

Particulate matter refers to very small solid or liquid particles that are suspended in the air.

Fine particulate matter can be inhaled deep into the lungs, where it is very difficult to remove. This can cause serious health impacts.

There is no safe level of exposure to particulate matter. Some people will feel effects at very low concentrations.

Did you know?

The average adult takes 20,000 breaths a day. Children can take up to 43,000 breaths a day!

One in four children in Canada has asthma or some respiratory disease.

Smoke makes it difficult for children with asthma to breathe.

Backyard Burning

Backyard burning of materials such as garden waste, brush slash and garbage is prohibited year round in Gibsons and Sechelt. There is no acceptable option for burning these materials.



There are other options for managing small woody debris such as chipping and composting. Chipped material can be used on pathways, and compost is a great fertilizer for gardens and flowerbeds!

Alternatives to Burning

You do not have to burn land clearing debris.
Here are some other options:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

There are options on the Sunshine Coast

Chip Woody Debris

Use chips for compost or trails, or contact Howe Sound Pulp and Paper (Decomposing chips can cause leachate - contact the Ministry of Environment with your concerns)

Transport Yard Waste to a Landfill

Sechelt Landfill

Phone: 604 885-8289

Yard and garden waste up to 5 tonnes – FREE

Gibsons Green Waste Drop-off Depot

Phone: 604 886-2274

Open to Gibsons residents and residents of areas E+F
Yard and garden waste up to 35mm in diameter – FREE

Chipping Services:

Gibsons Tree Service

Phone: 604 886-7985

Free estimates; chipper and stump grinder available.
Chipped material transported off-site.

AM PM Landclearing and Demolition

Phone: 604 576-2672

Porter Wood Recycling

Phone: 250 248-3692

S&G Tree Service

Phone: 604 885-3897

Richnor Recycling

Phone: 604 884-5000

Chipping service, material pick-up, bins available.
Will accept stumps!

Peerless Tree Services

Phone: 604 885-2109

Sechelt Tree Service

Phone: 604 885-6606/ 604 740-6218

Proteus Tree Service

Phone: 604 885-8894

Air Quality

Think globally, act locally!

Smoke has harmful local and global environmental effects. Carbon dioxide and other products of burning contribute to climate change and extreme weather.

Burning releases particulate matter that can stay in the atmosphere for a long time. There is no safe level of human exposure to particulate matter.

Air has no boundaries. Problems from one area can be spread a long distance. Small particulates can travel up to 800 kilometres!

