



Fire permits are required for **ALL** open burning. As the County will be at a minimum of a Fire Restriction between April 1st and October 31st every year, permits will only be issued between November 1st and March 31st, weather permitting.

In an effort to ensure that residents have a clear understanding of how the permitting process works, the following Frequently Asked Questions, have been compiled along with their answers.

**Q: Why do I need a fire permit?**

**A:** A Fire Permit informs your local fire department that there is a controlled burn taking place in their response area. This allows them to distinguish between an accidental and a controlled burn. By obtaining a Fire Permit you have simply indicated that you wish to burn. The responsibility for conducting a safe burn is yours.

**Q: What is the cost of a permit?**

**A:** Fire Permits are issued at no cost to the applicant.

**Q: How can I get a permit?**

**A:** In order to get a Fire Permit you can apply online at the County's website <http://www.cypress.ab.ca/p/fire-services>, or come into the County office at 816-2nd Avenue in Dunmore and either fill one out in person or take it home and fax it in later to (403) 526-8958.

**Q: What information do I need to provide to apply for a permit?**

**A:** Your name, address, phone number, legal land description, municipal address and a description of what you are burning is all information required to be filled out on the Fire Permit application.

**Q: What can I burn?**

**A:** Materials that are considered Class "A" materials such as clean wood, brush, tree prunings and other burnable debris are permitted to be burned.

**Q: What do I do with materials that I cannot burn?**

**A:** Materials that cannot be burned need to be disposed of in an appropriate manner such as hauling them to one of the County's waste transfer sites. The locations of these facilities and information on what is accepted is available at <http://www.cypress.ab.ca/p/waste-recycling>.

**Q: How long does it take to get notification if I am approved or not?**

**A:** The County strives to make the approval process as short as possible for the convenience of the residents. You will be notified if your permit is approved within 1 business day of submitting an application.

**Q: How long is my permit valid for?**

**A:** A Fire Permit is valid for 3 days from the date of issue.

**Q: Do I have to go through the whole application process again if I'm not done burning after the 3 days?**

**A:** If you call into the County office, (403) 526-2888, prior to your Fire Permit expiring the permit can be extended for another 3 days. If your Fire Permit has already expired, you will have to complete another application.

**Q: What are the possible consequences of conducting a controlled burn without a permit?**

**A:** If a Fire Permit is not obtained prior to starting to burn the landowner may be held responsible for the cost recovery of the fire department's response, if they are called out to attend and extinguish the fire. In the worst case scenario a violation ticket may be issued according to the Fire Permit Bylaw.

If you have further questions please feel free to contact the Cypress County office at (403) 526-2888, Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm.