



City of Holly Springs Commercial Burn Regulations

770-345-5536

General Requirements

- All Burning operations shall comply with the “Rules for Air Quality Control” chapter 391-3-1 as written and amended by the Environmental Protection Division and these standards.
- No open burning will be authorized when the weather conditions (wind, humidity, temperature, overcast, etc.) may jeopardize the safety of life and property as determined by the issuing officer.
- Except for a reasonable period to get the fire started, the smoke opacity equal to or greater than 40 percent shall not be emitted from any pit fire.
- The Cherokee County Fire Department or City of Holly Springs Fire Code Official may revoke permit if conditions or permit conditions require such.

Step 1 – Site Selection and Preparation

- Select a site which will likely have a low water table, can be easily excavated and will be at least 300 feet from any structure.
- Only one pit is allowed to be burning within a 9-acre area at any time and there must be at least 1000 feet between each pit.

Step 2 – Pit Preparation

Excavate the Pit using either a front-end loader or a backhoe.

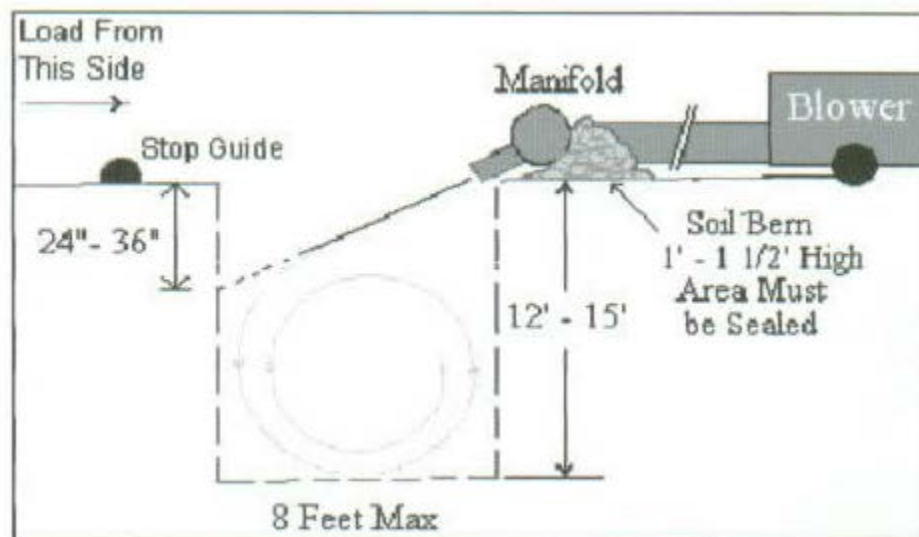
Pit Dimensions:

- 8 feet wide by 12 to 15 feet deep by 15 to 30 feet long. The pit **MUST** be excavated with at least 3 vertical sides in soil capable of maintaining vertical walls of 15 feet in depth without failure. Additional support may be necessary.
 - **Note 1:** The length is dependent upon the length of the air curtain destructor manifold.
 - **Note 2:** Caution must be exercised to ensure that the walls are not undercut during excavation. If a front-end loader is used for excavation, the end used for travel must be filled in with dirt beginning at the end of the manifold and filling up the ramp.

Step 3 – Air Curtain Destructor Setup

- Using a small berm of soil (1 to 1 ½ feet high), place the manifold plenum and nozzles such that the manifold is properly supported and the space between the manifold and the ground is sealed. Rotate the manifold until the air curtain will be directed toward an imaginary horizontal line 24 to 36 inches below the top of the opposite wall. Slide the skid containing the blower and motor into place and connect the manifold.

Burn Pit Setup



Step 4 – Ignition Procedure

- Load the pit half full with a homogeneous mixture of trees, logs and large brush. Douse the wood with ½ gallon of fuel oil or kerosene. The majority of the fuel oil or kerosene should be put on the wood at the front center side of the pit. Allow sufficient time for the fire to take hold before introducing any air from the air curtain destructor. As the fire grows in intensity, gradually bring the blower up to optimum speed (generally 1,100 and 1,400 RPM).
- **Caution: Do Not Use Tires or Highly Volatile Solvents Such as Gasoline or Mineral Spirits Etc. for Ignition.**
 - **Note 1:** Only wood waste consisting of trees, logs, large brush or stumps relatively free of soil may be burned.
 - **Note 2: LUMBER, LEAVES, SAWDUST, PAPER OF ANY TYPE OR CHEMICALLY TREATED, COATED OR IMPREGNATED WOOD CANNOT BE BURNED.**

Step 5 – Loading Procedures

- Once the fire reaches full intensity, successive intermittent charging may begin. The intervals between charges may be determined by observing the burning rate. Generally, if the fire is kept at its maximum intensity, it will keep 1 man operating a front-end loader constantly busy. Also, the material should be charged toward the rear of the pit under the air curtain. The pit should not be overloaded. That is, the material should not be piled so high that it protrudes above the air curtain. No material should extend outside the boundaries of the pit and the air curtain.

Step 6 – Closing the Pit

- The pit shall be completely extinguished by 6:00 PM by applying water or covering completely with soil.

Step 7 – Maintenance and Safety Requirements

- Ash removal is required in order to maintain efficient and proper combustion. Ashes should not be allowed to build up higher than 1/3 the pit depth or below the point where they begin to impede combustion and are blown out of the pit. If caving of the pit walls occurs during operations, a new pit must be constructed and the existing pit filled with soil.
- Note: Each new pit will require an inspection by the Fire Code Official. Any accumulation of water in the pit must be removed prior to beginning operations.
- Safety: It is recommended that a fence or barrier be erected around the pit to protect the public. A “stop guide” or restraint **MUST** be provided at the loading side of the pit in order to keep the loader from getting too close to the edge of the pit during charging operations.

Step 8 – Inspection

- To schedule a pit inspection call the city Holly Springs between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM at 770-345-5536.

All pits MUST PASS inspection in order to obtain a permit.

Step 9 – Permit

- After passing inspection call 770-345-5536 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM to obtain your permit.

CONTACT THE GEORGIA FORESTRY SERVICE EVERYDAY BEFORE BURNING. THEY CAN BE REACHED AT 877-652-2876.