

## Category 2 Fire

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- A Category 2 fire is larger than a campfire and used for disposing of vegetative debris.
- This category refers to open fires, other than a campfire, that burn:
  - Material in one pile not exceeding 2 metres in height and 3 metres in width.
  - Material concurrently in two piles, each not exceeding 2 metres in height and 3 metres in width.
- Stubble or grass over an area that does not exceed 0.2 hectares.

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### Regulations

- CRD Fire Regulation Bylaw No. 2, and the [Provincial Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation](#) (OBSCR), are to be followed where applicable.

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### Open Burn Smoke Control Regulations (OBSCR)

The following vegetation size exemptions for agricultural or domestic purposes apply.

- If all the vegetative debris is under 3 cm in diameter, an operator is exempt from the OBSCR.
  - If all vegetative debris is between 3 cm and 10 cm in diameter, the operator is exempt from most sections of the OBSCR with the following conditions:
    - The collected debris is from within 5 km of the burn site and there are no burn bans.
- Note: A fire chief, or fire chief's designate, does not have the discretion to exempt the requirements to follow the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation except under specified circumstances (e.g. FireSmart activities).

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### Permit Requirements

- Generally, a permit for a Category 2 fire is required. However, fire chief or fire chief's designate has the discretion to establish or rescind permit requirements for Category 2 fires within their defined fire service area.
- It is not recommended to charge a fee for a Category 2 fire permit.

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### Setbacks

- At least 10 metres from any building, structure, fence, tree or hedge or property line.

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### Fire Operators

- Obtain a permit from the fire department if required for the service area.
- Ensure that every reasonable alternative for reducing, reusing or recycling the vegetative debris is used to minimize the amount being open burned.

- If required, follow the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation, including the [Venting Index for Southern Vancouver Island](#) and the [Information Fact Sheet for All Open Burners](#).
  - Avoid conducting an open fire when it's windy.
  - Choosing a proper location.
  - Do not burn green debris or leaves.
  - Do not use an open fire for the disposal of domestic waste or prohibited materials.
  - Never leave an open fire unattended.
  - Never ignite a category 2 fire if a ban has been established by the fire chief or fire chief's designate.
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### **Enforcement**

- A fire chief, or fire chief's designate, is responsible for enforcing Category 2 fire regulations within their service area.
- It is recommended to focus on education for Category 2 Fire operators. Warnings and Municipal Ticket Information should be a last resort.
- It is the responsibility of the BC Conservation Officer Service to enforce the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation.