

Please print clearly in **BLOCK LETTERS** with a black pen.  
 Ensure all fields have been filled out correctly.  
 Please tick  the appropriate boxes.

Once your application is received a Council Officer will contact you if further information is required.

1 Applicant details						
Surname				First Name		
Postal Address						
Suburb				State		Postcode
Email			Phone		Mobile	
2 Property and Vegetation Details						
Address of proposed burn						
Address where vegetation originated						
What is the reason to burn? (please tick)			<input type="checkbox"/> Property Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Hazard Reduction		
Size of property						
Type of Vegetation						
Distance to nearest residence (mtrs) <b>Note:</b> If more than 75 metres do not use this form.					Quantity of Vegetation	(m <sup>3</sup> )
Proposed date/s of burning			to		(please allow 15 working days to process application)	
List reasons you are unable to dispose of the matter in any other way other than by burning:						
Has the Rural Fire Service or Fire & Rescue NSW been contacted?			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
Signature/s			Date			
<p><b>PRIVACY STATEMENT:</b> The information provided in this form may constitute personal information as defined in the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. Council is collecting this information so that it can consider matters and take relevant actions required under related planning legislation, regulations, standards, codes, policies etc. in relation to dealing with your application. The information may be made available to other parties where such access is in accordance with relevant legislation, regulation or Procedure. The submission of personal information in this case is required by law and if not provided (wholly or in part) may affect or prevent consideration of the matter by Council. Council is to be regarded as the agency that holds the information, which will ultimately be stored in Council's records system. You may make application for access or amendment to information held by Council and you may also request that Council suppress your personal information from a public register. Enquiries concerning this matter can be addressed to Council's Privacy Contact Officer.</p>						

**OFFICE USE ONLY**



Inspecting Officer			Signature/s		
Date	Approved (Y / N)		Date Response Issued		
Application Fee	\$ NIL	Receipt No.	Receipt Date		
Allocation No.	Receipt Type		TRIM container: F14/342		

**Please note:**

Applicants must provide a site plan (drawn to scale) of the premises and the location of the proposed burn. Stockpiles must comply with the **NSW Rural Fire Services** "Standards for Pile Burning" (copy available at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)).

## Control of Burning in Bega Valley Shire

### Why has Council introduced controls on burning?

There have been an increasing number of enquiries relating to burning by residents of the Bega Valley Shire. The majority have been complaints relating to smoke production, odour and human health effects. The indiscriminate burning of waste in the open increased the levels of fine particulate material in the air that subsequently impacted on community health. The main health effects of fine particulate material includes: -

- Increased frequency of asthma attacks
- Increased activity restrictions due to adverse lung reactions
- Increased potential for severe respiratory distress and heart attacks
- Increased mortality due to heart disease and respiratory illness.

In response, Council has introduced a Clean Air Procedure to assist in reducing the occurrence of open burning so as to minimise the health impacts on the wider Bega Valley Shire community. There are many alternatives available to property owners and managers in lieu of burning. Council offers a garden organic collection system within certain urban and village areas, and where provided, property owners can request (for a fee) additional garden organic collections. Mulching and composting of vegetative matter should also be considered as alternatives to burning.

### What is Council's Clean Air Procedure about?

The Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 allows councils to approve open burning of dead and dry vegetative material to certain cases and classes of people. Bega Valley Shire Council's Clean Air Procedure provides a practical and controlled method of managing open burning of vegetative waste on properties that require this method of waste disposal.

### Does this Procedure and regulation apply to my land?

Yes. The Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 applies to the entire Bega Valley Shire Council Local Government Area. Under this regulation it is an offence for person/s to burn material in the open without having the appropriate approval or exemptions in place. Please refer to Council's Clean Air Procedure to better understand how the approval and exemption processes work. The Procedure can be viewed on Council's website [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au). And the regulation can be viewed by visiting [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

### Can I burn off general waste in my backyard?

No. The burning of general waste is prohibited in Bega Valley Shire Council area except where no garbage service is provided. Burning this type of material in the open creates pollution that contributes to many forms of respiratory illness. Burning general waste is prohibited under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010.

### Can I burn vegetation in the open at my property?

Yes. Burning can only take place where an approval has been issued. Generally for urban and village areas you will need to complete this application form, and wait for Council to determine your application. You will need to comply with all the conditions listed in Appendix 2 of the Clean Air Procedure. If you live in most rural areas of the Shire, provided you comply with all the conditions listed in Appendix 1 of the Clean Air Procedure, you do not need to get any other approvals from Council.

### Do I still need to get permits or approvals from the NSW RFS or Fire & Rescue NSW?

Yes. Approvals under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 do not remove the need to also obtain whatever other permits or approvals to burn. During declared bushfire danger periods you will need to obtain a permit from the relevant fire authority. A fire permit is also needed at anytime when lighting fires that are dangerous to buildings.

### Is there any penalties for non-compliance?

Yes, Council's Authorised Officers and certain Officers of other authorities are empowered to serve Penalty Notices where it can be established there has been a breach of the Regulation such as, burn without an approval or not in accordance with an approval, burning otherwise than to prevent/ minimise air pollution or burn a prohibited article. Penalties are set by the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 currently exceed \$500 for individuals and \$1,000 for corporations.

### Who can I call if I am unsure about how this Procedure applies to me?

Please call Council on 02 6499 2222, please do not call the NSW RFS or Fire & Rescue NSW.

#### Rural Fire Service Contact regarding fire permit issues

NSW RFS Bega can only be contacted during normal business hours on (02) 6494 7400

[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

#### Fire & Rescue NSW Contacts regarding fire permit issues

Fire & Rescue NSW can be contacted on (02) 6492 1775 (Bega), (02) 6496 1506 (Eden) or (02) 6495 3062 (Merimbula) (leave a contact message if not answered)

[www.fire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au)