

Please print clearly in **BLOCK LETTERS** with a black pen.
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) Note: If more than 75 metres do not use this form.			Quantity of Vegetation	(m ³)	
Please 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).					
Proposed date/s of burning		to		(please allow 15 working days to process application)	
Please provide specific details as to the extenuating circumstances that is preventing you from disposing 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>PRIVACY STATEMENT: 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>					

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.

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.

Does this Procedure and regulation apply to my land?

Council's Burning Off in Open Areas Policy allows property owners in certain areas to burn off subject to criteria without seeking Council approval. Check the Policy for more details https://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-YZH-47-32-03. If your property does not meet this criteria, you are required to submit this form seeking approval for the burning activity. Under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010, it is an offence for person/s to burn material in the open without having the appropriate approval or exemptions in place.

Can I burn off general waste in my backyard?

No. The burning of general waste is prohibited in Bega Valley Shire Council area. 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.

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

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

Office Use

Inspecting Officer		Signature/s	
Date		Approved (Y / N)	Date Response Issued
Application Fee	\$	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).