



REVIEW OF OPEN BURNING BYLAWS ON VANCOUVER ISLAND

- 33 municipalities
- 40% new or amended bylaws
- 57% banned burning (4 within city)
- 51% partial ban

Burn Bans

Urban containment

Tofino	Campbell River
Comox	Parksville
Courtenay	Qualicum Beach
Duncan	Nanaimo
Ladysmith	Saanich
Lake Cowichan	

NOTABLE NEIGHBOURS

Tofino	Chipping program Garbage burn ban indoors and out
Colwood	Recognize the importance of health and air quality and desire to take measures
Comox	Curbside yard waste pickup Sky rocket product
Port McNeill	No official bylaw but prohibits open burning
Cowichan Valley Regional District	SWMP, State of the Environment Land-clearing burning regulation Harmonize outdoor burning bylaws
North Cowichan	Gradual steps, education emphasis Free garden waste drop-off site Heavy smoke/fumes not tolerated
Qualicum Beach	Lot size restriction Time restriction

CAMPBELL RIVER

- Similar size and economic pressures
- Closure of Catalyst's Elk Falls mill
- Loss of tax base

- Clean Air Bylaw
- 2010 Fall/Spring yard pickup
- 2011 Regular curbside yard waste
- Green City fee

IMPORTANT POINTS

- **Many open burning and air quality bylaws on the Island acknowledge the need to promote and protect clean air as a fundamental ingredient for community and environmental health.**
- **Most communities say that their air quality bylaw management is not difficult or costly**



Regional Districts have an important role to play by supporting:

- 1. Development of alternatives to burning**
- 2. Public education programs**
- 3. Harmonization of district burning regulations**
- 4. Cost recovery programs – green fee, ticketing**
- 5. Permit schedules**
- 6. Compliance and enforcement activity
(Fire Dept, Bylaw officers, MOE, MFLNRO)**
- 7. Establishment of guidelines or bylaw protection**

SMOKE REDUCTION MEASURES:

ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING

e.g.	increase landfill minimum size for woody debris	no cost
	encourage operations like Berry Trucking	no cost
	manage free drop-off site(1 day/week)	low cost
	seasonal garden waste pickup	green fee
	expand ACRD garbage/recycling pickup	planning

GUIDELINES FOR BEST BURNING PRACTICES

(see Model Municipal Bylaw for Regulating Backyard Burning and the Clean Air Bylaws Guide)

e.g.	restrict duration and timing of burn (year, day, etc.)	no cost
	link allowable burning to venting index	no cost
	restrict materials burned (no garbage, burn barrels)	no cost
	require permits for burning, especially larger or commercial burns	\$ revenue



SUPPORT FOR SMOKE REDUCTION MEASURES

- Air Quality Council (AQC)
- Ministry of Environment (MOE)
- Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO)
(surveillance, compliance, enforcement)