What’s the Alternative?

- Dispose of man-made materials at the dump
- Compost organic kitchen and garden waste
- Chip branches and clearing debris
- Reduce, Re-use, Recycle

Reduce: Stop collecting so much garbage. Buy items with less packaging – DEMAND IT!
Re-use: Have a yard sale, or donate unwanted items.
Recycle: Beverage containers, paper, cardboard, metal, and acceptable plastic.

CALL THE RECYCLING HOTLINE: 1-800-667-4321

What about the cost?

Many residents burn garbage in their yard or wood stove to avoid dump fees and the hassle of hauling their trash to the dump. The cost and inconvenience are much less troublesome than poisoning your family and neighbours...or getting fined.

THERE IS NO CHARGE AT THE DUMP TO DISPOSE OF SEPARATED RECYCLABLES OR GARDEN WASTE

Who do you call?

If garbage smoke is a problem in your neighbourhood:

In the City of Port Alberni call:
Port Alberni Fire Department
724-1351

In the Regional District call:
Ministry of Environment
1-877-952-RAPP

If the problem persists:
• Take a picture - this may be helpful for enforcement officers.
• Request help from your city councillors or regional director.

Spread the News

Tell your friends, neighbours, and elected officials about the danger of backyard burning and the clean air alternatives. Give them a copy of this brochure. Support the development of bylaw protection and other government efforts to cut down on smoke from all sources.

For more info check out these web sites:
• www.burnbarrel.org
• www.compost.org
• www.bc.lung.ca
• www.ecosuperior.com
• www.ecy.wa.gov
• http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/air/airquality

This brochure was produced by the Air Quality Council of Port Alberni

Clear the Air

You burn it, you breathe it

If you’re burning garbage, you’re making poison!
It's not your grandfather’s garbage

- We produce way more garbage than our grandparents did...
- Today’s garbage is full of materials that didn’t exist a generation ago.
- Burning our garbage produces pollution unheard of years ago.

Did you know?

- Smoke from burn barrels can cause CANCER, ASTHMA, and INFERTILITY... to name a few.
- All garbage releases toxic chemicals when burned...even paper!
- One burn barrel releases as much toxins as a municipal incinerator serving thousands of families.

Warning

Burn barrels are especially bad because the fires burn at low temperatures, receive little oxygen, and produce lots of toxic smoke - right at ground level, where they are easily inhaled.

What goes up ... must come down

(no, it doesn't disappear)

In your yard or wood stove, burning garbage releases many extremely toxic chemicals that contaminate our air, water, and land. Dioxins, for example, settle in the food we eat, ending up stored in our fat. They are known to cause many disorders, diseases, and defects - especially in babies.

THE DIOXIN, TCDD, IS THE MOST LEthal HUMAN MADE POISON NEXT TO RADIOACTIVE WASTE.

Domestic waste | Plastics
Demolition waste | Paint
Tar paper | Treated lumber
Manure | Lubricant containers
Asphalt products | Fuel containers
Drywall | Railway ties
Rubber | Special waste
Tires | Biomedical Waste