

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) Regulation No. 61-62.2, Prohibition of Open Burning, allows exemptions for permanently established fire-fighter training sites and for temporary training sites with prior DHEC approval. Air Staff in the EQC Regional Offices (see page 2 for offices and counties covered) will evaluate and respond to requests for exemptions. The request must be made in writing and must include the following:

1. Detailed sketch of the proposed burn site including property boundaries.
2. Description of fuels/materials to be burned for the training exercise.
3. For permanent training sites, documentation that a plan has been prepared to address containment and/or runoff of liquids and that the plan is consistent with DHEC Bureau of Water requirements.
4. Documentation that a post-burn waste disposal plan has been prepared and that the plan is consistent with DHEC Bureau of Land and Waste Management requirements.
5. Description of on-site fire control measures to be used during training exercises.
6. Schedule of planned training exercises including dates, approximate times, and durations.

An organization conducting a fire-fighter training burn which has been exempted must:

- a) Contain liquids used for the exercise in accordance with Bureau of Water requirements. (Contact local EQC Regional Office for information.)
- b) Ensure that only approved materials are involved in any burn.
- c) Handle post-burn waste according to DHEC Bureau of Land and Waste Management requirements. (Contact local EQC Regional Office for information.)
- d) Ensure fire control measures are followed.

Note:

- Training for use of small hand-held fire extinguishers is not subject to prior approval requirements.
- Permanently established fire-fighter training sites may continue to operate under previously issued approval until evaluated under current exemption criteria.
- Exemption for a temporary site must be requested at least 30 days prior to the proposed training date.
- Any changes to a burn plan must be submitted to the Regional Office and approved prior to implementing the change.
- A demolition license from the Asbestos Section of the Bureau of Air Quality (requires submission of an asbestos survey, written notification 10 working days in advance, and payment of applicable fees) is required for any structure to be burned for training. For information concerning asbestos regulations, contact the Asbestos Section at (803) 898-4289.
- Structures burned for training purposes must be stripped of asbestos-containing materials (e.g., ceiling and floor tiles, shingles, siding, etc.); rubber, plastic, and vinyl materials; and other non-wooden contents.

DHEC may suspend or revoke any exemption for failure to adhere to any approved plan, or if conditions exist or are created which warrant cessation of burning. Failure to follow approved plans may also result in the initiation of enforcement action.

Exemption Conditions for Firefighter Training Exercises

February 2013

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Regional EQC Offices:

Region 1 - Anderson EQC

220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone (864) 260-5569 Fax (864) 260-4855
Counties: Anderson, Oconee

Region 2 - Greenville EQC

301 University Ridge, Suite 5800
Greenville, SC 29601-3677
Phone (864) 241-1090 Fax (864) 241-1092
Counties: Greenville, Pickens

Region 3 - Lancaster EQC

2475 DHEC Road
Lancaster, SC 29720
Phone (803) 285-7461 Fax (803) 285-5594
Counties: Chester, Lancaster, York

Region 4 - Florence EQC

145 East Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506-2526
Phone (843) 661-4825 Fax (843) 661-4858
Counties: Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon,
Florence, Marion, Marlboro

Region 5 - Aiken EQC

206 Beaufort Street NE
Aiken, SC 29801-4476
Phone (803) 641-7670 Fax (803) 641-7675
Counties: Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg,
Barnwell, Calhoun, Orangeburg

Region 7 - Charleston EQC

1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 300
Charleston, SC 29405
Phone (843) 953-0150 Fax (843) 953-0151
Counties: Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester

Region 1 - Greenwood EQC

1736 South Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone (864) 223-0333 Fax (864) 223-6935
Counties: Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood,
Laurens, McCormick, Saluda

Region 2 - Spartanburg EQC

151 East Wood Street / PO Box 4217
Spartanburg, SC 29303 or 29305 for POB
Phone (864) 596-3800 Fax (864) 596-2136
Counties: Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union

Region 3 - Columbia EQC

Bldg #5 / PO Box 156
State Park, SC 29147-0156
Phone (803) 896-0620 Fax (803) 896-0617
Counties: Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry,
Richland

Region 4 - Sumter EQC

105 Magnolia Street / PO Box 1628
Sumter, SC 29151
Phone (803) 778-6548 Fax (803) 934-2938
Counties: Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter

Region 6 - Myrtle Beach EQC

927 Shine Avenue
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577-3580
Phone (843) 238-4378 Fax (843) 238-4518
Counties: Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg

Region 8 - Beaufort EQC

104 Parker Drive
Beaufort, SC 29906
Phone (843) 846-1030 Fax (843) 846-0604
Counties: Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton,
Jasper