



## COMMUNITY AGREED RULES

We all want clean, fresh and healthy air in Hawke's Bay. Community consultation has helped Hawke's Bay Regional Council set rules, through the Regional Resource Management Plan, to limit the harmful effects of burning.

## AIR QUALITY MONITORING

HBRC monitors air quality in three urban locations in Napier, Hastings and Awatoto and periodically monitors wider areas to ensure they meet the national environmental standard for PM<sub>10</sub>.

We report publicly when these standards are breached.

You can see monitoring results on [www.hbrc.govt.nz](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz), Search #airquality or on [www.lawa.org.nz](http://www.lawa.org.nz), air quality.

## REPORTING A FIRE

If you are affected by a neighbour's fire, you have every right to report it. Uncontrolled fires must be reported promptly to Fire Emergency **Dial 111**, giving the location and any other relevant details.

If the fire is not dangerous but smoke, ash, dust or odour is drifting over your property or causing a hazard, please contact the HBRC Pollution Hotline **0800 108 838** with location and details.

## OTHER INFORMATION

### Air quality rules and burning waste:

HBRC Compliance Officers  
06-835 9200 / 0800 108 838  
[info@hbrc.govt.nz](mailto:info@hbrc.govt.nz) or go to [www.hbrc.govt.nz](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz)

### Fire permits and to check the fire season status:

Fire Emergency NZ website  
[www.checkitsalright.nz/Bylaws](http://www.checkitsalright.nz/Bylaws)

### Recycling and waste disposal information

Contact your city or district council



## DO YOU KNOW THE RULES FOR HOUSEHOLD OUTDOOR BURNING

Burning is often seen as a quick and easy way to get rid of rubbish around your home. However, burning the wrong things releases chemicals and particles that can harm your health and the health of our environment.

# BACKYARD BURNING AND WOOD BURNERS

## Specific rules apply in the Hastings and Napier Airsheds

Outdoor fires are not permitted during May, June, July and August.

**Airzone 1** covers the mostly urban areas of Napier, Hastings, Flaxmere and Havelock North, **Airzone 2** covers mostly rural land within the Airsheds (see maps below).

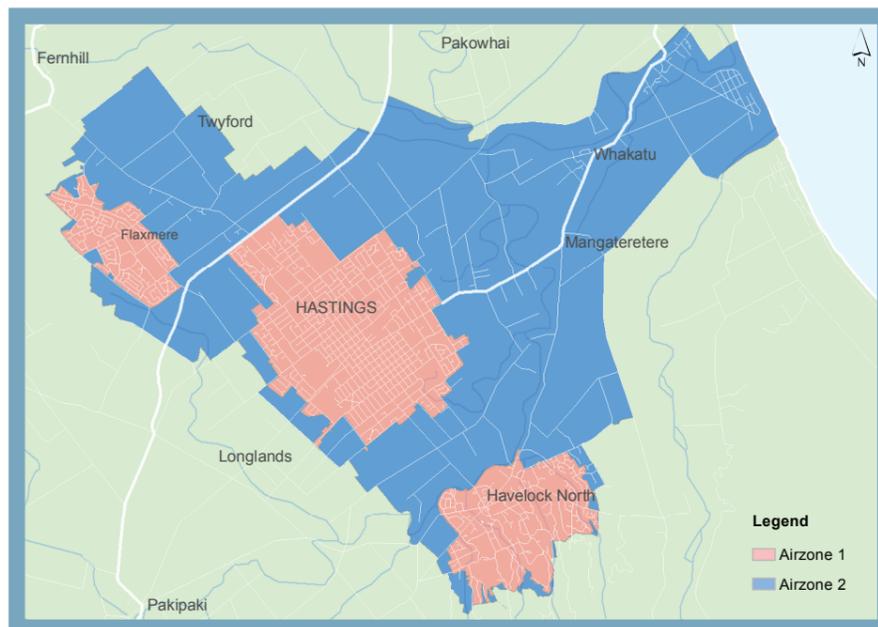
There are also restrictions on indoor burning. You must have a compliant wood burner (installed since August 2005) and must not burn any prohibited material (see 'what you can't do' on the next page).

## THE NAPIER AND HASTINGS AIRSHEDS

HBRC monitors air quality to ensure the region meets the **NES standard** for fine particles and **sets rules** to achieve this.

Specific restrictions apply to properties within the Napier and Hastings Airsheds.

## HASTINGS AIRSHED ZONES



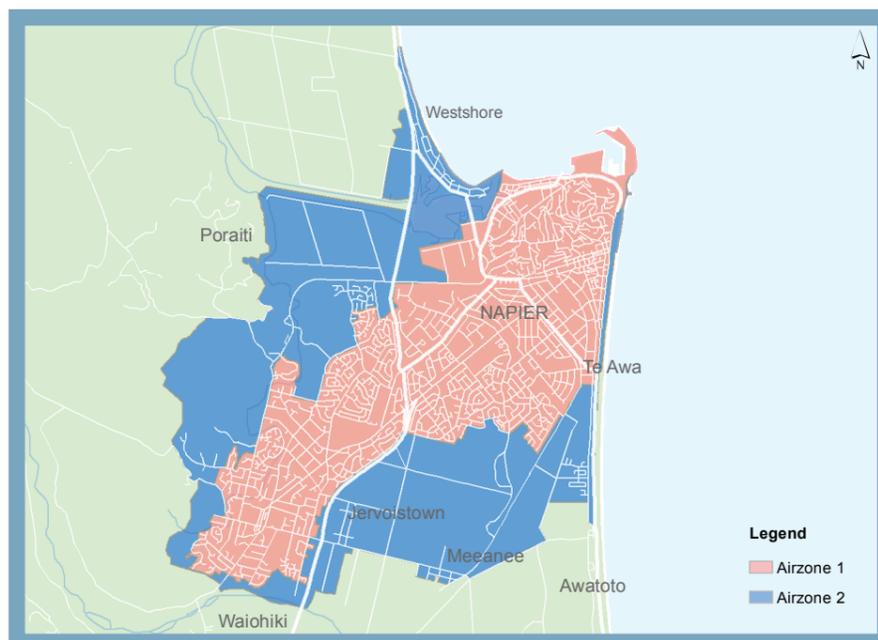
As part of the **National Environmental Standards (NES)** the Government sets limits for the acceptable amount of air-borne particulates (including smoke and dust). **Excessive levels of fine particles can harm human health.**

Particles in **smoky fires** can aggravate conditions such as asthma, as well as being unpleasant for neighbours.

Burning tyres, oil and plastic poses even greater health and environmental risks by releasing **toxins** into the air, and is banned.

View detailed maps online at [hbrc.govt.nz](http://hbrc.govt.nz), search **#airquality**

## NAPIER AIRSHED ZONES



## WHAT YOU CAN DO

At **ALL** times during the year, fires for cooking (barbecues, hangi, umu) can legally be used in urban areas.

Use only dry, untreated wood. Check the weather conditions and make sure that any smoke won't cause a nuisance for your guests or neighbours.

The outdoor burning of vegetation, paper, cardboard and untreated wood is permitted in certain circumstances (see Rule 19a of the Regional Resource Management Plan).

Before carrying out any burning, contact your local district or city council to make sure you comply with their bylaws. Some councils have bylaws which restrict burning in urban areas all year round and they can advise you on details.

## WHAT OTHERS CAN BURN

- There are specific rules restricting outdoor burning on trade or industrial sites. They cannot burn materials outdoors without a resource consent or proper incineration equipment.
- There are restrictions for burning on horticultural production land within the Airsheds, but growers may burn for orchard and vineyard redevelopments, disease control and discharge to air from frost protection heaters. However, these fires, must be lit in a way to reduce smoke and hazards. Fruitgrowers have a 'Good Practice Guide' developed by their industry and HBRC.

## BEFORE YOU BURN

Following some basic good burning practices can help prevent your fire affecting others.

- **Urban:** Contact your District or City Council to make sure you comply with their bylaws, e.g. Napier City Council prohibits outdoor burning in urban areas all year round.
- **Rural:** Fire ban information and information on permits may be obtained from Fire Emergency NZ, [www.checkitsalright.nz/](http://www.checkitsalright.nz/)
- Be considerate of your neighbours - they can report your fire if it affects them.
- Burn only well dried waste vegetation - when it's green or wet it burns slowly with much more smoke.
- Check the weather before lighting your fire. Light breeze blowing away from neighbours is best. Avoid lighting a fire on still winter mornings as smoke can become trapped by the inversion layer and become a health hazard.

## WHAT YOU CAN'T DO

If your property is located within the Napier or Hastings Airsheds, outdoor burning is not permitted during the months of May, June, July, August.

This is because smoke can become trapped in inversion layers on still cold days, causing a public health hazard.

Smoke and odour from your fire must not cause a problem beyond your boundary, e.g. block visibility on nearby roads, or cause objectionable levels of smoke and ash to drift onto your neighbour's property.

Burning green garden waste is not advisable as it generates large amounts of smoke. Only burn dry prunings, trees, untreated timber, paper and cardboard.

The following prohibited materials must not be burned either outdoors or indoors (refer to Rule 20 of the Regional Resource Management Plan for a complete list):

- Animal waste
- Asbestos
- Batteries, pacemakers or electronic devices
- Chemical or medical waste
- Fibreglass or foam products
- Household or industrial rubbish
- Insulated electrical cables, or recovered metals
- Metals or materials from vehicles and machinery
- Plastic products, including plastic coated metals
- Rubber products, including tyres
- Any synthetic material
- Treated or painted timber, fibreboard or chip-board
- Waste oil, or any waste containing hydrocarbons.

## DO YOU NEED TO BURN?

There are other options available for waste disposal. Contact your local council for advice.

- Paper, cardboard, glass, aluminium cans, tin cans and grade 1 & 2 plastics can be recycled through city **kerbside collections** or at **recycling centres**.
- Batteries, light bulbs and electronics (phones, computers) can be recycled through the **Environment Centre**, Karamū Road, Hastings. There is a small charge to cover the cost of stripping and sorting.
- Chemicals and oils can be recycled through the annual **Hazmobile** collection in Hastings and Napier. Paint can be recycled through paint companies.
- **Compost** or mulch your green waste, take it to landfill or have it collected by a green waste company.
- Larger wood pieces can be used for firewood; if you need help disposing of this, contact community or service groups who can donate to people in need.
- Any general waste left over can go to **landfill**.