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|  | <b>County of Accomack</b>  |                        |
|   | <b>Emergency Management</b>  |                        |
|   | <b>Subject:</b>  | Open Burning Ordinance |
|   | <b>Effective Date:</b>   | November 16, 2006      |
|   | <b>Last Revision Date:</b>   | n/a                    |
| <b>Signature of Approval:</b>   | <br><b>Donald L. Hart, Jr.,</b><br><b>Director of Emergency Management</b> |                        |

**Purpose**

To provide a consistent mechanism for the decision making process and final recommendation to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors or Director of Emergency Management for a ban on open burning.

**Background**

On November 16, 2006, the Accomack County Board of Supervisors modified its local Open Burning Ordinance to allow for a ban to be implemented on all open burning. This local ordinance was approved by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Pollution Control Board on September 22, 2006.

**Procedure**

When weather conditions exist that exacerbate the potential fire threat to Accomack County the following steps shall be implemented:

1. **MEETING** between representatives of the following organizations should take place to determine the need for a ban on open burning:
  - County Administrator
  - Director of Emergency Management
  - Accomack County Fire Commission Chairperson
  - Department of Forestry, Local Forester
  - Director of Public Safety
  - Accomack County Sheriff
  - A. A recommendation of action shall be rendered by two thirds majority vote.
    1. If a ban is recommended the following items shall be included, at a minimum, in writing:
      - Reason for the Ban to include contributing factors.
      - Implementation period; to include a start date and ending date. Ending date can be identified by a change in weather conditions or circumstances
2. **APPROVAL** of Open Burning Ban
  - A. The decision either be presented to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors at the next regularly scheduled meeting or at any special meeting there of.
  - B. In the immediate interest of Public Safety the County Administrator may grant approval to impose the ban on open burning. This approval will remain in effect until it can be ratified at the next meeting (regular or otherwise) of the Accomack County Board of Supervisors.

3. **ENFORCEMENT** of the Opening Burning Ban

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the Accomack County Sheriff's Office to enforce all aspects of the Local Open Burning Ordinance to include enforcement of the ban on burning to the fullest extent of the law.

4. **NOTIFICATION** of Open Burning Ban

- A. The Department of Public Safety shall notify in writing the following agencies of the existence of the burning ban:

911 Center  
Fire-Rescue Companies  
Sheriff's Office to include Code Enforcement Officer  
Virginia Department of Emergency Management  
Department of Forestry – State and Local  
Extension Agent  
Mayors

5. **ADVERTISEMENT** of Open Burning

- A. The Department of Public Safety shall place advertisements with the following media sources:

Print (4" x 6")  
Eastern Shore News  
Eastern Shore Post

Radio (not more than 30 seconds run at least 4x times daily)  
WVES  
WESR

Websites  
Accomack County Department of Public Safety  
Accomack County  
Department of Forestry  
Any other site which is willing to run the information at no cost.

- B. All costs associated with advertisement shall be paid for from Emergency Management funds.