



# Propane Flaming Permit

The propane flaming rules were developed after the second year of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ's) Crop Residue Burning Program. The propane flaming permit reduces the administrative requirements for burning very small amounts of residue while still protecting public health. The propane flaming permit only applies to very specific activities.

Propane flaming is the use of flame-generating equipment to briefly apply flame and/or heat to the topsoil of a cultivated field of pre-emerged or plowed-under crop residue with less than 550 pounds of burnable, nongreen residue per acre. Propane flaming is allowable for control of diseases, insects, pests, and weed emergence; is *not* used for crop residue disposal; and must be conducted on the field where the residue was generated.

## Residue Loading Requirement

The picture below shows a field with 550 pounds of burnable, nongreen residue per acre. A field with less than this amount of residue would qualify for propane flaming as long as other requirements are met. This picture is taken from the "Picture your Residue" publication by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (available at [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs144p2\\_042684.pdf](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs144p2_042684.pdf)).



## Grower Requirements

Unlike other types of DEQ-regulated crop residue burning, propane flaming as defined above does not require growers to register fields or pay a fee. Instead, they shall be deemed to have a permit by rule if they comply with the following:

- The permittee must ensure that adequate measures are taken so the burn does not create a hazard for travel on a public roadway.
- Propane flaming shall only be allowed on DEQ-designated burn days for the county where the field is located and within the designated burn window. Burns shall not smolder and create smoke outside of the designated burn window. DEQ burn decisions are available at <https://www2.deq.idaho.gov/air/CRB/BurnDecisionMap/index>
  - Burning conducted under a propane flaming permit may be allowed on weekdays, weekends, and state and federal holidays.
- Permittees must record the date, time frame, type of burn, type of crop, and amount burned on the date of the burn. Records shall be retained for 2 years and made available to DEQ upon request.
- The person conducting the burning must carry a portable form of communication such as a cellular phone or radio of compatible frequency with DEQ in order to receive information necessary to protect air quality.
- Permittees must attend a crop residue burning training session provided by DEQ online at <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/air-quality/smoke-and-burning/crop-residue-burning/>
- All persons intending to conduct propane flaming shall obtain any additional applicable permits from federal, state, or local fire control authorities prior to burning.

## Burning Restrictions

- Burning is not allowed if the proposed burn location is within 3 miles of an institution with a sensitive population (ISP) and the surface wind speed is greater than 12 mph or if the smoke is adversely impacting or expected to adversely impact an ISP.
  - An ISP includes public schools while in session; hospitals; residential healthcare facilities for children, the elderly, or infirm; and other ISPs as approved by DEQ.
- All open burning, including propane flaming, is prohibited when DEQ issues an air quality emergency episode notice as defined by Idaho rules (IDAPA 58.01.01.552).
- Tires and other restricted materials described in Idaho rules (IDAPA 58.01.01.603.01) are not allowed for ignition in fields.