

## **CAN YOU BURN WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF PETERSBURG?**

The burning of trash or other combustible materials within the city limits of Petersburg is allowed with certain exceptions and **only if you first obtain a permit for the burning.**

**It is unlawful to** burn trash, debris, or other combustible materials if the burning is done in such a manner as to endanger any property or buildings in the city. This unlawful burning can subject you to a fine of up to \$500.00.

**It is also unlawful to** burn trash, debris, or other combustible materials if the burning is done in such a manner as to create offensive smoke, odors, soot or ash to fall or that is blown into and across surrounding property and buildings. Such unlawful burning constitutes a nuisance and can subject you to a fine of up to \$500.00.

The City Manager may issue a permit for burning for the purpose of disposal of **fallen brush or other debris, for responding as necessary to a disaster, natural or otherwise, or for the purpose of celebration or mourning.** This permit may be issued without City Council approval but must first be reviewed by the Fire Marshall.

Any person that wants to burn must obtain a permit from the City. The permit process starts with the submission of a petition to the City Manager. The petition must be submitted along with a \$20.00 non-refundable permit fee. The fee is waived for any governmental entity.

Once the City Manager receives the petition he/she must then review the petition to ensure compliance with all applicable EPA regulations or other local, state, or federal agency regulations including TCEQ requirements. The City Manager shall prescribe such conditions and restrictions as he/she deems appropriate to ensure compliance.

The Fire Marshall shall also review all petitions submitted to him by the City Manager to ensure that the requested burning will not endanger any person or property or place undue burden on the fire department. The Fire Marshall shall prescribe such conditions and restrictions as he/she deems appropriate to protect the health, safety, and property of the residents and to minimize the burden upon

the fire department.

After the City Manager and the Fire Marshall have set forth their conditions then the petition must be submitted to the City Council for approval. If the City Council disapproves a petition, then in that event, the petition may not be resubmitted until 180 days have past. If submitted earlier the City Manager may decline the petition.

If after issuance of a permit, the City Manager or the Fire Marshall determine that the permit is not consistent with the purposes for which it was issued the City Manager or Fire Marshall may revoke the permit. The revocation of the permit is effective upon receipt of notice to the permit holder. The notice of revocation may be by any means possible of providing notice.