

Fire Ban Information



Effective immediately, all wood burning fires are prohibited in four San Diego region state beaches where established fire rings are not provided. The new policy is intended to prevent injuries to visitors and reduce beach debris.

Illegal ground fires are a safety hazard for our visitors. In San Diego County, state beaches are left with unsightly and unsafe soot, coals, nails and lumber from pallets and construction. These items lie buried in the sand surrounding the very popular beach fire areas like South Carlsbad State Beach at South Ponto. Coals are used by vandals to deface the city of Carlsbad maintained seawall and worse yet, hot coals buried in the sand remain hot for days and cause harmful and often serious burn injuries to beach visitors.

Beach visitors are being asked to plan ahead and obtain a clean burning, portable propane fire grill or butane burner with stable legs that can be raised at least six inches off the ground or sand. The use of nail-filled pallets, wood logs, kerosene, oil, charcoal briquettes, fire logs, newspapers or trees is prohibited. Charcoal grills are also phased out by this action at most beaches.

The order will not affect wood fires and charcoal barbecue fires in provided campsite fire rings at South Carlsbad and San Elijo State Beach campgrounds. The fire rings in each campsite provide for safe fire containment and disposal of coals and ash. State Parks is unable to place maintained fire rings on all beaches maintained by State Parks due to accessibility and Coastal Commission requirements and lack of available sand space on its North County beaches.

Contact Information:

San Diego North Sector Office
(760) 720-7001

