



How to Become a NC Certified Burner

Step 1:

Attend the N.C. Certified Burner Class offered 2-3 times annually by the N.C. Forest Service (NCFS) and pass the test at the training. The course is held around the state and at various times throughout the year. The class cost is \$25.00 and registration closes two weeks prior to the class. The course and registration information for the year's classes are posted on the NCFS website by early summer.

Here is the link to the Certified Burner page, where you can also find information on the most current class available: https://ncforestservice.gov/fire_control/fc_howtobecertifiedburner.htm

Step 2:

Prepare a prescribed burn plan that covers the following information:

- Landowner's name and address
- Description of the Burn Unit
- A map of the area and of the specific burn unit
- An estimate of tons per acre of the fuel in the unit and the fuels types
- The objective(s) of the Prescribed Burn
- Acceptable weather conditions and parameters for the prescribed burn that is sufficient to minimize the likelihood of smoke damage and fire escaping onto adjacent areas
- The name of the certified burner observing the burn
- Summary of methods that are adequate for the particular circumstances involved to be used to start, control, and extinguish the prescribed burn
- Provisions for reasonable notice of the prescribed burn to be provided to nearby homes and businesses to avoid effects on health and property

Here is a link to an online fillable pdf version of the Prescribed Fire Plan:

https://www.ncforestservice.gov/fire_control/pdf/Generic_burn_plan_Stand_Alone%20Fillable.pdf

Step 3:

Obtain all necessary burn permits and authorizations, and notify nearby residents and emergency response agencies about the upcoming burn.

Step 4:

Conduct the prescribed burn under NC Smoke Management Guidelines, following the plan while observed by a certified burner on site.

Step 5:

Have a certified burner observe the burn and submit a recommendation of certification to the NCFS via the Burner Certification Checkoff Sheet, along with a copy of the burn plan and burn unit maps.

Here is the link to the Checkoff Sheet:

https://www.ncforestservice.gov/fire_control/pdf/NC_Certified_Burner_Certification_Checkoff_Sheet.pdf

