

POST-STORM BURNING GUIDANCE

AIR CURTAIN INCINERATORS



Once an Emergency Final Order is issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in response to an emergency created by the landfall of tropical systems, it will allow the following types of activities using an air curtain incinerator.

AIR CURTAIN INCINERATORS

An air curtain incinerator is a device used to control air emissions during burning. The device operates by projecting a high velocity curtain of air across an open chamber or pit in which combustion occurs. The Emergency Final Order allows local governments and their agents to burn hurricane-generated yard trash, other vegetative debris and untreated wood from construction and demolition debris in air curtain incinerators in accordance with [Section 403.7071\(6\), Florida Statutes](#).

REQUIREMENTS

In operating an air curtain incinerator under the Emergency Final Order, the following requirements apply:

- The pit width cannot exceed 12 feet and vertical side walls must be maintained;
- Waste material must not protrude above the level of the air curtain;
- Ash cannot be allowed to build up in the pit higher than one-third the pit depth or to the point where ash begins to interfere with combustion, whichever level is lower;
- The use of an air curtain incinerator under the Emergency Final Order is limited to disaster debris management sites (DDMSs) and other waste-permitted facilities, with prior written authorization from DEP required before burning can begin; and
- The burning of asbestos-containing materials, hazardous waste, or other material prohibited by Rule 62-256.300, F.A.C., is prohibited.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Under the Emergency Final Order, refractory-lined air curtain incinerators may operate 24 hours per day. Air curtain incinerators without refractory-lined walls may also operate 24 hours per day as long as reasonable efforts are made to prevent nuisance smoke.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding the air curtain incinerator provision of an Emergency Final Order, please contact:

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Please refer to DEP's Post-Storm Guidance on Open Pile Burning for additional information on requirements related to pile burning vegetative materials.