

Support The Campaign to End Field Burning!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution
\$1,000 \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50, \$35, \$_____

Make your check payable to WELC (Western
Environmental Law Center). Indicate on your
memo line that your gift is for the Campaign to
End Field Burning.

We also accept secure credit card donations
online at www.westernlaw.org, or fill out this
form:

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THANK YOU!

Check here if you do not want to be publicly
listed as a supporter of the Campaign.

Clip and Mail to:
Campaign to End Field Burning
Western Environmental Law Center
1216 Lincoln St., Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 485-2471
www.endfieldburning.org

Contact the Governor and Your State Legislators.

Ask them to put an end to field burning,
for every body's health.

Governor Ted Kulongoski
160 State Capitol
900 Court Street
Salem, Oregon 97301-4047
ph: 503.378.4582, fax: 503.378.6827
www.governor.oregon.gov

To find your state legislator and get complete
contact information, visit
www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr

To email your state legislator, visit
www.leg.state.or.us/writelegsltr



For further information, contact:

Samantha Chirillo, Coordinator
Campaign to End Field Burning
1216 Lincoln St., Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 485-2471
endfieldburning@westernlaw.org

The Campaign to End Field Burning is a
project of the Western Environmental Law
Center (WELC). www.westernlaw.org

The Campaign to End Field Burning



For Every Body's Health!



www.endfieldburning.org



Photo: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

FIELD BURNING THREATENS PUBLIC HEALTH

Field burning smoke accounts for up to 40 percent of fine particulate matter air pollution in the Willamette Valley during summer months.¹

Human lungs cannot effectively filter these small particles. Accordingly, a portion find their way into the bloodstream and threaten the cardiovascular system. In fact, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare recently found that even a small increase in such pollution increases the risk of stroke by 11 percent.²

Field burning smoke also can trigger life-threatening asthmatic attacks.

During the recent U.S. Track and Field Trials held in Eugene, the Oregon grass seed industry wisely agreed to refrain from burning fields so as to protect the athletes and their fans. But all Oregonians have the right to breathe clean air, not just Olympic hopefuls and their supporters.

¹ Oregon DEQ (April 2007). WELC files. During days of actual burning, smoke from the burning fields accounts for nearly two-thirds of fine particulate emissions in the Willamette Valley. *Id.*

² Particulate Matter and Health Effects in North Idaho: An Evaluation of Air Monitoring and Health Insurance Data (2007) at 1.

Lane County recognized this threat to public health, and warned the state last year that a cessation of field burning is needed “to protect the lives and health of Lane County residents and others throughout the state.”³

“Inhalation of smoke from burning fields presents a serious threat to many patients with both lung and heart disease. It also presents a real risk to many others, including children and the elderly. Medical studies over the past 55 years have repeatedly and convincingly shown the harmful effects of small particulates in smoke, whether the source is cigarettes or atmospheric pollutants.”

– Robert Carolan, M.D., Pulmonologist
Oregon Lung Specialists, LLC

FIELD BURNING IS OUTDATED

Oregon is the only state in the Northwest that still allows field burning. Washington banned it by action of that state’s Department of Ecology, while burning in Idaho was halted in 2007 by court order as a violation of the Clean Air Act.

The grass seed industry claims that field burning is necessary to sterilize soil before replanting, or to kill pests. But less than 20 percent of the state’s 1,400 growers resort to field burning, while the majority use other methods to ensure healthy harvests. Most importantly, it is fundamentally unjust for a few to profit at the expense of the health of so many Willamette Valley residents.

³ Letter from Lane County to Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (June 19, 2007) at 1. WELC files.

The Campaign to End Field Burning ... For Every Body’s Health!

The Campaign to End Field Burning includes doctors, nurses, other health professionals, individuals, and organizations dedicated to protecting the public’s health.

We seek an immediate ban on field burning. But we will not succeed without your help.

TAKE ACTION

1. Contribute to the Campaign (see back for donation form).
2. Sign and circulate the Petition to End Field Burning Now (download at www.endfieldburning.org).
3. Contact the Governor and your state legislators and ask them to put an end to field burning. See back for contact information.
4. Write a letter to the editor.
5. Volunteer. Contact us at endfieldburning@westernlaw.org.

“Nothing else matters
when you can’t breathe.”

– Carla Hervert, RN, pulmonary and cardiac therapy, Sacred Heart Medical Center