BURNING OFF AND SMOKE NUISANCES
Environmental Protection Act 1994
Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011

Townsville City Council has regulations to control smoke, ash and fumes as a result of lighting fires in residential and commercial areas. You are responsible for the smoke emitted and need to take care not to cause a nuisance to your neighbours.

BURNING OFF RUBBISH IN BACKYARDS
You can only burn off materials in your backyard if:
» the material is less than 2m in height, width or length (anything over this amount requires approval from Queensland Fire and Emergency Services)
» it is on private property
» you are not burning animal carcasses
» the fire is enclosed in a fireplace to prevent the escape of fire or any burning material
» it is not causing a smoke or odour nuisance.

DO I NEED A PERMIT?
A permit may be required if the fire is more than 2m in height, width or length.

Please visit the Queensland Government’s Rural Fire Service website for more information about permits—www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au.

Complaints relating to fires created under a Rural Fire Service permit are the responsibility of the Rural Fire Services.

MORE INFORMATION
For more information, visit Council’s website townsville.qld.gov.au, or call Council’s Customer Service Centre on 13 48 10.

PENALTIES
Council has an obligation to investigate complaints about burning and any associated smoke and/or odour nuisance.

Penalties may be imposed if any of the above criteria are not met.