

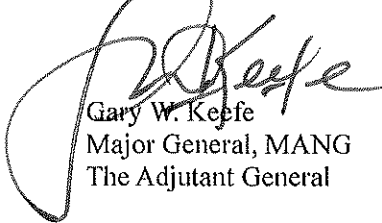
MANG BURN PIT REGISTRATION

**Joint Force Headquarters
Departments of the Army and the Air Force
Massachusetts National Guard
Massachusetts Military Division
Hanscom AFB, MA
2 December 2025**

Summary of Change

There are no changes, this is the first version of this regulation.

By Command, of The Commander-in-Chief:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Keefe', is written over the printed name and title.

Gary W. Keefe
Major General, MANG
The Adjutant General

History. This printing creates a new Massachusetts National Guard Regulation (MNGR) Burn Pit Registration/MANG Reg 2025-02. This publication has been organized to make it compatible with an electronic publishing format.

Supersession. This is the first publication of this regulation.

Summary. This regulation prescribes the Massachusetts National Guard policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning guidance and outreach efforts pertaining to Burn Pit Registration for present and retired members of the Massachusetts National Guard.

Applicability. The provisions of this regulation are applicable, in their entirety, to all members and retirees of the Massachusetts National Guard.

Proponent and exception to policy. Assistant Adjutant General/Executive Officer

Management control process. This regulation will be reviewed every 24 months in accordance with (IAW) Massachusetts National Guard Regulation (MANG) 2025-01.

Supplementation. Supplements to this publication are not authorized without written consent of the proponent.

Suggested Improvements. Users of this publication are invited to send comments and suggested improvements in memorandum format direct to: Assistant Adjutant General, Executive Officer, JFHQ, Hanscom AFB, MA 01731

Distribution. Electronic media only. Distribution list MAKO.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1-1. Purpose

This regulation provides guidance and instructions regarding the registration of burn pit exposure for all Massachusetts National Guard personnel and veterans. It aligns with Department of War (DoW) initiatives, state directives, and federal mandates to address health concerns related to burn pit exposure. Burn pits have been used by the U.S. military in overseas theaters, primarily in Iraq and Afghanistan, for waste disposal of plastics, chemicals, and other hazardous materials. Exposure to toxins released from burn pits may lead to various long-term health effects, including respiratory and cardiovascular conditions, cancers, and other related illnesses.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of War (DoW) actively track and assess burn pit exposure impacts on service members and veterans. A national registry is established to document exposure histories, advance research, and facilitate access to care and benefits for service members and veterans exposed to burn pits while serving.

1-2. References

a. Required and related publications and prescribed and referenced forms are listed in Appendix A. This will include VA and DoW resources as well as the MA State law reference.

1-3. Explanation of Abbreviations and Terms

Abbreviations and special terms used in this regulation are explained in the glossary.

1-4. Responsibilities

a. The Adjutant General (TAG) is the overall authority.

Chapter 2

Organization

2-1. Eligibility and Enrollment for Burn Pit Registration

a. Veterans and service members (living or deceased) documented in DoW records, who served in the following military campaigns or operational theater are automatically enrolled.

(1) Operations and Campaigns: Desert Shield and Desert Storm (ODS/S); Iraqi Freedom (OIF); Enduring Freedom (OEF); and New Dawn (OND) (from August 2, 1990 - August 31, 2021)

(2) Geographical Areas: Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, United Arab Emirates, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman, and waters of the Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, and Red Sea (from August 2, 1990 - August 31, 2021)

(3) Theaters: Southwest Asia Egypt (from August 2, 1990 - August 31, 2021) Afghanistan, Djibouti, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, or Yemen (from September 11, 2001 - August 31, 2021)

(4) Associated airspaces of the countries and bodies of water listed above.

b. All service members and veterans, particularly those meeting any of the following criteria, can check their enrollment status or request a manual edibility review:

c. Although inclusion is automatic, participation in the registry is optional and has no impact on, nor will it determine eligibility for VA health care and benefits.

(1) Veterans seeking more information or who would like to file a claim under the PACT Act, should visit <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/> or call 1-800-698-2411 for assistance.

(2) Those who wish to opt out of participation can complete an opt out form online at <https://vethome.va.gov/BurnPitRegistryOptOut/>

2-2. Guidance and Resources

- a. Burn pit hazards and registry information can be found on the VA site:
<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/registry.asp>
- b. Currently serving MA National Guard personnel can check enrollment status at:
<https://vethome.va.gov/inquiry/>
 - (1) Contain the MANG Reg number and date published
 - (2) Contain the Classification level
- c. Veterans can check their status by contacting their local Environmental Health Coordinator by locating them at: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/coordinators.asp>
- d. If not enrolled, all personnel can request a manual eligibility review at:
<https://vethome.va.gov/inquiry/>
- e. Health Registry Evaluation: Enrolled personnel may receive an invitation for a voluntary medical assessment to alert them of possible long-term health effects possibly related to exposures. Detailed guidance and resources can be found at: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/benefits/registry-evaluation.asp>

Appendix A
References

Section I
Required Publications
This section has no entries

Section II
Related Publications
<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/registry.asp>

Section III
Prescribed Forms
This section contains no entries

Section IV
Special Abbreviations and Terms
This section contains no entries

Glossary
Section I
Abbreviations

DoW
Department of War

PACT Act
Promise To Address Comprehensive Toxics

VA
Veterans Administration