

Your Smoke - Your Responsibility

Smoke is a definite effect of fire. Anytime you burn, your fire will produce smoke. You are as responsible for your smoke as you are your fire! Here are some tips to help you reduce the amount of smoke produced from the fire.

- **Burn smaller piles.**

Smaller piles produce smaller amounts of smoke.

- **Burn on clear days.**

Cloudy overcast days tend to stagnate the air causing smoke to linger and settle around you and your neighbors.

- **Burn with a little wind.**

Wind is needed to move and disperse smoke.

- **Avoid burning wet piles.**

Moisture in your pile will produce more smoke. Dried out leaves, limbs, etc. burn clean and produce less smoke.

- **Avoid dirt in your piles.**

Dirt helps hold in moisture and will cause a smoke problem. When building your pile, keep dirt to a minimum.

- **Avoid burning at night or early morning.**

Try to burn from mid-morning until early afternoon. Early morning and nighttime has the same effect as cloudy days and smoke will linger.

- **Inform your neighbors.**

Let your neighbors know a day or two before you plan to burn. They may want to plan to be away that day.

- **Be neighborly.**

If your smoke becomes a problem, put your fire out and burn when conditions are more smoke-management friendly.



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Debris Burning Safe Burning Practices



What is Debris Burning?

Debris burning is burning or removal of limbs or brush piles. Debris burning can be broken into three main categories:

- **Yard maintenance burns** include small limb piles, leaf piles, grass clippings, shrub trimmings, etc. Yard maintenance burns are the #1 cause of wildfires.



- **Agriculture burns** are brush piles made up of debris from clearing for new fields or pastures, clearing fencerows, or orchard trimmings.

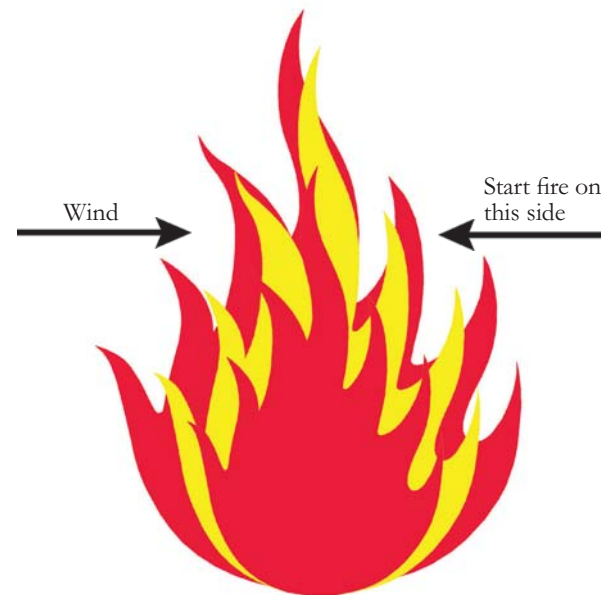


- **Construction piles** are piles created after clearing for building homes, businesses, or clearing for roads.



How to Burn Debris Safely

- Obtain permit before you start.
- Clear at least a 25-foot area around your burn pile of any flammable material.
- Don't pile debris close to other materials that may catch fire.
- Never use flammable liquids such as gasoline to start your fire.
- Start fire downwind of your pile (see illustration).
- Never leave your fire unattended.
- Always make sure your fire is completely out and that the burn area is cool to the touch.



Tools Needed Before Burning

- Rake
- Shovel
- Water Hose

