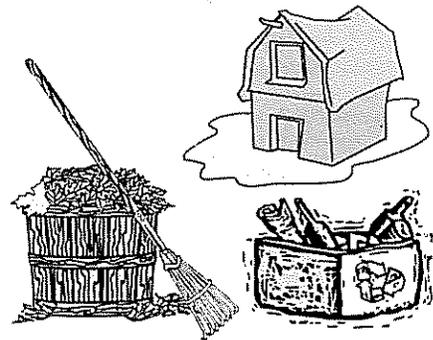


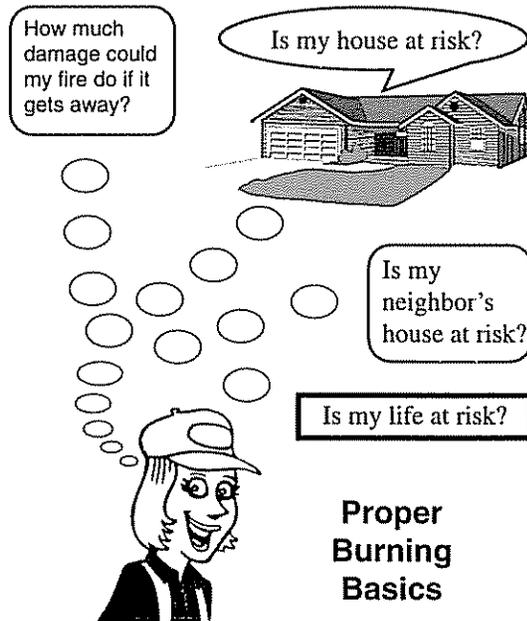
Burning is a Big Decision!



Burning dead vegetation can be very hazardous. If the burning is done incorrectly, the consequences can be the loss of life and property.

Each year more and more wildfires destroy homes and cause fatalities. The problem will continue as long as people live in rural settings.

An escaped debris burn can result in a devastating fire, so it's very important to think of the consequences before striking a match.



Proper Burning Basics

1. Put dry debris in small piles so the fire will be hot, yet manageable. Wet or dirt-covered materials will cause fires to smolder and emit more smoke.
2. Build piles in openings away from overhead branches and wires.
3. Scrape away debris and any other burnable materials several feet around the piles to be burned. The result should be bare soil around each pile.
4. Keep water and tools ready in case of unexpected changes in the fire or the weather.
5. Light the fire when you have an update on safe burning conditions.
6. Stay with your fire until it is out. Hidden embers thought to be out have ignited many expensive fires.
7. Burn only natural vegetation and woody materials. State law prohibits the burning of animal droppings, garbage, dead animals, tires, oil, or other toxic materials.

Fire Police Ambulance 911

Give your:

- Name
- Location
- Call-back Number

Describe the Situation

This burning permit program is an interagency fire prevention program. The following are cooperators in this program:

*Lewis & Clark County Fire Council
Jefferson County Fire Council
Support Services Division/911
Dispatch Helena
Jefferson County 911 Dispatch
Boulder
Montana Department of
Natural Resources and Conservation
U.S. Forest Service
Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
Whitehall Police Department
Lewis & Clark County Commission
Jefferson County Commission*



If your fire escapes, keep in mind that you may be liable for fire suppression costs and damages suffered by your neighbors.

EMERGENCY
DIAL

9-1-1

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Spring 2002

WHEN CAN I BURN?

March 1 to November 30

Lewis and Clark and Jefferson Counties have established an open burning season from March 1 through November 30. A burning permit is required. Also, Make sure there are no air quality restrictions.

State Air Quality Bureau
1-800-225-6779

September 1 to November 30

During the months of September, October, and November, air quality standards must also be met. Contact the

Ventilation Hotline
1-800-225-6779

December 1 to February 29

Burning in December, January, and February is generally prohibited. For further information on burning during this time and on air quality variances, call

(406) 444-3490

Large burns, emergency burns, fire fighter training burns, trade waste burns, landfill burns, Christmas tree waste burns, and commercial film production burns require a permit from:

Department of Environmental Quality
1520 East Sixth Avenue
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-3490

Lewis & Clark County Fire Departments

Augusta Rural Fire District
Baxendale Rural Fire District
Birdseye Rural Fire District
Canyon Creek Rural Fire District
Canyon Ferry Fire Service Area
Dearborn Fire Service Area
East Helena Volunteer Fire Department
Eastgate Rural Fire District
East Valley Rural Fire District
Helena Fire Department
Lakeside Fire Service Area
Lewis & Clark County Sheriff-Fire
Lincoln Rural Fire District
Marysville Rural Fire District
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
U.S. Forest Service
West Helena Valley Rural Fire District
Wolf Creek/Craig Fire Service Area
York Fire Services Area

Jefferson County Fire Departments

Basin Volunteer Fire Department
Boulder (City) Volunteer Fire Department
Boulder Rural Volunteer Fire Department
Clancy Volunteer Fire Department
Elk Park Volunteer Fire Department
Jefferson City Volunteer Fire Department
Jefferson Valley Volunteer Fire Department
Montana City Volunteer Fire Department
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
U.S. Forest Service
Whitehall (City) Volunteer Fire Department
Willow Creek Volunteer Fire Department

WHERE DO I OBTAIN A BURNING PERMIT?

Lewis & Clark County

In Lewis and Clark County, the Helena National Forest Supervisor's Office issues burning permits between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except on holidays. Permits may be obtained in person, or may be accepted over the telephone and issued by mail. Please allow 3 to 5 working days for delivery of the burn permit.

Helena National Forest

Supervisor's Office
2880 Skyway Drive
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5201

Jefferson County

In Jefferson County you must go to one of the locations (listed below) that issues permits. No permits will be issued by mail.

In North Jefferson County

Mark's-Miller Post and Pole
15 Lump Gulch Road • Clancy, MT 59634
(406) 933-5981

Montana City Store

1 Jackson Creek Road • Montana City, MT 59634
(406) 443-0150

In South Jefferson County

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
110 South Washington • Boulder, MT 59632
(406) 225-4075

Whitehall Police Department

208 West First Street • Whitehall, MT 59759
(406) 287-3322

Elk Park

Contact Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
(406) 225-4075

KEEP IN MIND, BEFORE YOU START BURNING . . .

You must have a burning permit in your possession before igniting any debris-burning fire.

You must call the number listed on the burning permit prior to any ignition. This call must be made every time you activate your burning permit.

Open burning is subject to cancellation at any time due to existing weather conditions, predicted weather conditions, and/or fire activity. Open burning cancellation is one of the reasons that you are required to call every time your permit is activated.

Failure to secure and have the burning permit in your possession and/or failure to make the required telephone call(s) may result in:

- A citation being issued to you
- A fire suppression agency responding unnecessarily to your fire
- A law enforcement officer responding to your fire
- Being billed for fire agencies responding to your fire

Check to be sure weather conditions are favorable.



Weather Forecast and Conditions
(406) 443-5151

