

Be Safe; Learn Before You Burn

In Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming debris burning is one of the leading types of human-caused wildfires. These fires result in millions of dollars of damage or lost resources, property and lives. Most people never intend to start a wildfire, but even the best of intentions can produce disastrous results when safety precautions aren't carefully followed.

Federal, state and local fire agencies are working together to raise fire awareness about debris burning. These agencies hope folks will learn how to safely conduct debris and agricultural type burns. The "Learn Before You Burn" campaign is one way fire agencies are doing this.

The Rocky Mountain Area Information and Education Committee put together some Public Service Announcements (PSA's) as part of the "Learn Before You Burn" campaign. With the help of Garceworks Video Production located in Lakewood, Colorado, and the Pueblo Community College Theatre Department in Pueblo, Colorado, both radio and video PSAs were produced. They are best described as a mix between the classic television show "Hee Haw" and a cheesy game show. The PSAs emphasize that debris burning is not a game and there are things you should know before lighting that match.

Both radio and video PSAs are available for TV/radio stations and fire agencies to download. Agencies have the option to do their own printed materials with the attached campaign information or with just the campaign slogan "Learn Before You Burn".

Please help out our fire agencies and communities by being careful with fire.

Links

Rocky Mountain Area Information & Education Committee:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/administrative/info_education_committee.html

Garceworks Video Production:

<http://www.garceworks.com/>

Pueblo Community College Theatre Department:

<http://www.pueblocc.edu/Academics/AreasStudy/ArtsSciences/ArtsHumanities/Theatre/>



Learn Before You Burn

Do You Have to Burn?

Consider Alternatives to Burning

Composting yields valuable organic matter that can be used to enrich soil, while extending the life of our landfills. Household trash, such as metal and glass, which should not be composted, can be hauled to recycling centers or landfills.

If You Decide to Burn...Burn Responsibly!

1. Obey all local and state laws or restrictions (**Burn permits may be required**).
 2. Avoid burning on dry, windy days.
 3. Burn small piles, gradually adding to the fire as it burns down. Large piles of burning debris generate intense heat capable of carrying burning embers up and across control lines.
 4. Clear all dry grass and weeds from around your pile or burn barrel.
 5. Burn debris in a covered receptacle.
 6. Always have water, a rake and a shovel handy while you burn.
 7. If burning a large agricultural area, please check with your local fire department on regulations and/or tips about burning it safely.
- CALL 911 or your local fire department if your burn becomes a wildfire.
 - DO NOT attempt to suppress a wildfire, if it cannot be done EASILY with the tools and water you have on hand.
 - If you delay calling for help, you may have disastrous results.

Article Pictures (Clips from the Video PSA; Pueblo CC Logo; Garceworks Logo; and Information Education Committee Logo)



Use match as a clickable link to the PSA's

