



Central Oregon District
Oregon Department of Forestry

ODF Encourages Fire Prevention in Spring Activities

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As warmer spring weather inspires us to get out and enjoy all that central Oregon has to offer, ODF reminds us to practice fire safety to prevent uncontrolled fires. Warm dry weather alternating with cooler moist periods can give a false sense of reduced fire danger. Burning yard debris from landscaping projects or fuel reduction activities and campfires/warming fires can pose a significant wildfire risk if allowed to burn uncontrolled.

Escaped debris burns are the leading human-caused fire issue in Oregon, accounting for thirty fires burning 88 acres in the Central Oregon District in 2015. Uncontrolled fire or burning without a permit can result in citations and fines, as well as liability for any costs associated with suppression of the fire.

Consider alternatives to burning such as chipping, composting and debris removal programs through your local landfill. There are many FireFree events scheduled this spring throughout central Oregon.

Landowners are reminded to use precautions when burning yard debris. Fire is less likely to escape control by following these safety tips:

- Call your local burn number to determine if burning is allowed and if a permit is required.
- Avoid burning during windy conditions.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Keep the fire small and manageable.
- Have water and a shovel available.
- Clear the area around the fire to mineral soil.
- Burn only yard debris.
- Drown fire with water and stir until it is cold to touch to extinguish
- Report any uncontrolled fire to 9-1-1.

Additional tips can be found on ODF’s Fire Prevention webpage:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/pages/FirePrevention.aspx>.

It is never too early to think about fire season. While working on spring landscaping take the time to clean leaves and needles from your roof and gutters, as well as removing any vegetation and flammable material from under decks and adjacent to your home.

ODF’s Central Oregon District is not currently issuing burn permits for industrial logging slash. Landowners are encouraged to check logging and slash piles which were burned last fall to ensure there has not been any holdover fire.

For more information on ODF’s Central Oregon District visit

www.ODFcentraloregon.com.



**Central Oregon District
At a glance**

Fire protection for 2.2 Million acres of private and non-federal public forest and rangeland in 11 counties

Administer the Oregon Forest Practices Act

Provide technical and financial assistance to landowners