

Outdoor Burning TIPS

- Check with your local Florida Forest Service office to make sure it is legal to burn in your area.
- Make sure you meet the required setbacks.
- Burn only yard waste, no household garbage (includes paper products and newspapers).
- Don't burn on windy days.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Keep a water hose or shovel handy in case your fire escapes.
- Make sure your smoke does not obstruct visibility on nearby roads.
- Be sure your fire is completely out before you leave.

-Remember-

If your fire escapes, you may be liable for costs of suppression and damage to the property of others.

FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE FIELD HEADQUARTERS (By Counties)

Blackwater Forestry Center 850/957-6140
Escambia • Okaloosa • Santa Rosa

Chipola River Forestry Center 850/547-7084
Bay • Calhoun • Gulf • Holmes • Jackson • Walton
• Washington

Tallahassee Forestry Center 850/488-1871
Franklin • Gadsden • Jefferson • Liberty • Leon • Wakulla

Perry Forestry District 850/838-2299
Dixie • Lafayette • Madison • Taylor

Suwannee Forestry Center 386/758-5700
Baker • Bradford • Columbia • Hamilton • Suwannee
• Union

Jacksonville Forestry District 904/266-5001
Clay • Duval • Nassau

Waccasassa Forestry Center 352/955-2010
Alachua • Gilchrist • Levy • Marion • Putnam

Bunnell Forestry District 386/446-6785
Flagler • St. Johns • Volusia

Withlacoochee Forestry Center 352/754-6777
Citrus • Hernando • Lake • Pasco • Sumter

Orlando Forestry District 407/856-6512
Brevard • Orange • Osceola • Seminole

Lakeland Forestry District 863/648-3160
Hillsborough • Pinellas • Polk

Myakka River Forestry District 941/751-7627
Charlotte • DeSoto • Hardee • Manatee • Sarasota

Okeechobee Forestry District 863/462-5160
Glades • Highlands • Indian River • Martin
• Okeechobee • St. Lucie

Caloosahatchee Forestry Center 239/690-3500
Collier • Hendry • Lee

Everglades Forestry District 954/475-4120
Broward • Miami-Dade • Monroe • Palm Beach

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
CONSUMER SERVICES
ADAM H. PUTNAM, COMMISSIONER

FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE
JAMES R. KARELS, DIRECTOR

FOREST FIRE LAWS & OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS
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Know The Law

Before
You Strike
That Match
in Florida



www.fl-dof.com

Did You Know?

- Escaped Debris Burning is one of the leading causes of wildfires in Florida.
- The Florida Forestry Service administers Florida's outdoor burning and forest fire laws.
- Some types of burning require an authorization from the Florida Forest Service while others do not.
- Burning yard waste does not require an authorization but you must follow the rules for your area.

Burning Authorization Required

Agricultural, silvicultural, landclearing, pile and acreage burning all require a burning authorization from the Florida Forest Service.

Burning Authorization NOT Required

Authorization is not required to burn yard waste as long as you meet the required setbacks and there are no local, city or county ordinances in place that prohibit burning.

Check with your local, city and county officials to find out if there are any restrictions in your area.

What is Yard Waste?

Yard waste is vegetative debris such as grass clippings, brush, leaves, tree limbs, palm fronds, etc., that are a result of yard maintenance.

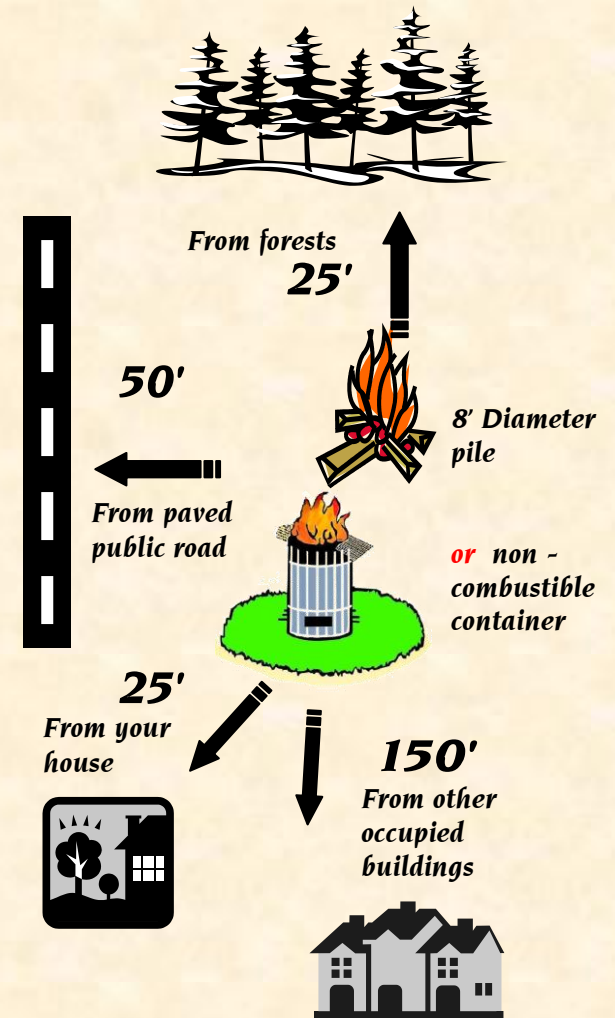
You may burn yard waste as long as:

- you meet the required setbacks and no local, city or county ordinances prohibit burning,
- the yard waste was generated on your property and it will fit in an 8-foot diameter pile or non-combustible container,
- your fire is ignited after 8:00 AM Central Time or 9:00 AM Eastern Time and is extinguished one hour before sunset,
- smoke is not a hazard or nuisance.

Note

Piles greater than 8 feet in diameter will require an authorization from the Florida Forest Service, must have suppression equipment on hand, and need to meet additional setback requirements.

It is illegal to burn household garbage (including paper products), treated lumber, plastics, rubber materials, tires, pesticides, paint, and aerosol containers.



Clear an area down to bare soil around your pile to prevent the fire from spreading.

Cover a non-combustible container with wire mesh to keep sparks from flying out and starting new fires.

If you have questions on outdoor burning, please contact your local Florida Forest Service office or visit our website:

www.fl-dof.com.com