

April 4, 2022 Safety Minute

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Tips for burning yard debris safely

Don't let your hard work go up in smoke!

Spring cleaning safety tips

- If planning to burn yard debris, keep in mind last year's grass is very flammable
- Here are a few tips to keep you safe!

Where to start

- Call before you burn!
 - WA Dept. of Ecology's Daily Burn Decision
 - www.ecology.wa.gov; or,
 - 800-406-5322 (press 1, then Option 2 for Chelan County)
 - Winds greater than 10MPH = no burning!
- Confirm burning is allowed in your area
 - Burning yard waste in Urban Growth Areas is prohibited
- Be sure to have a shovel and water available to suppress the fire
- Always have at least 1 person tending to the fire in case of a flare up

General burning guidelines

- Burning natural vegetation is ok
 - Garbage, building debris, rubber is NOT ok
- Maximum pile size = 4 ft x 4 ft with a 10-foot radius that is clear of other combustibles
- Burn barrels are illegal
- Have an orchard?
 - Beyond pruning (limbs and a few whole trees) you'll need an agricultural pile burn permit from the Dept. of Ecology before you burn

Alternatives

- Composting
- Wood chipping
 - Free mulch for your flower beds and gardens!
- Curbside pickup
- Community or neighborhood cleanup days
- Landfills