

FIRE AUTHORITIES IN GILPIN COUNTY



Allen Owen

Gilpin Sheriff Dispatch:
303-582-5500

Timberline Fire Protection District
303-582-5768

Central City Volunteer Fire Department
303-582-3473

Black Hawk Fire Department
303-582-0426

Coal Creek Canyon Fire Protection District
303-642-3121



GILPIN COUNTY SLASH PILE BURNING GUIDE



Boe Nicholson

Burning slash can be a cost-effective method of reducing hazardous fuels on private lands.

This brochure gives guidelines and permit requirements to burn slash in a safe and effective manner.

SLASH PILE OPEN BURN REGULATIONS

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Per Senate Bill 11-110, open slash pile burning for non-exempt burns on private land is prohibited without permits.

Two permits are needed:

- The burn permit for Gilpin County can be found on the county website: www.co.gilpin.co.us, or at the County Courthouse (203 Eureka St, Central City, 303-582-5214).
- The state permit can be found here: www.cdphe.state.co.us/ap/OpenBurning.html.

Burning without a permit will result in a \$1,000 fine. Violating the permit conditions will result in a \$500 fine for the first offense, and a \$1000 fine for the second offense.

Fire Department personnel will schedule and conduct an inspection of your slash piles. If pile construction conditions are met, the authorized fire department person will sign and issue the permit. Permits are valid for one year from the date of authorization, and are valid for the number of piles; piles may be burned on more than one day.

On day of burn:

- Notify the Gilpin County Sheriff's Office Dispatch (303-582-5500) when the burn begins and when the burn ends each day.
- If burning within the Timberline Fire Protection District, notify the District Administrator: 303-582-5768 (in addition to contacting Gilpin Sheriff Dispatch) within 24 hours prior to and upon completion of the burn. Please leave a message if the District Administrator is not available (i.e. weekends, holidays, etc.).

PILE CONSTRUCTION

- Woody materials to be burned include only clean, dry slash (limbs, branches, needles, leaves) less than 6 inches in diameter.
- Do not burn household trash, construction debris (building materials), lumber, tires, fence posts, creosote products or wood products containing hazardous chemicals, etc.
- Construct piles so that the maximum size of the pile does not exceed 8 feet in diameter and 6 feet in height. Piles should be further than 10 feet from any adjacent standing tree trunk—make sure tree crowns do not hang over the piles. Piles should be 20 feet apart. Piles should be constructed in openings or clearings whenever possible.
- Do not place piles over or near tree stumps nor adjacent to any large, down, dead, or green logs, as they will burn for an extended period of time and will require additional control.
- Build piles at least 50 feet away from any structure.
- Do not place piles near or under power lines or utility poles, drainages or waterways.



Irene Shonle

PERMITTED BURN CONDITIONS

- Burn ONLY when there's a minimum of 4 inches of snow on the ground.
- Burning slash during a snowfall will reduce smoke, and is recommended.
- Wind speeds at the time of ignitions must be 10 mph or less. If wind gusts exceed 10 mph for a period of 30 minutes or more, extinguish the pile so there is no visible smoke.



Cynthia Cox Cottam

- Monitor and attend your burns. One person shall only attend 2-3 piles at one time.
- Keep a shovel or two on the burn site and have a working telephone readily available in case of emergency (land line with adequate range or cellular with reception).
- Pile burning may only occur after sunrise. Piles must be fully extinguished before sunset (no visible smoke, flames or glowing embers).
- Piles should be visually checked for visible smoke and heat the day following the burn.

It's good etiquette to notify your neighbors of your intent to burn slash piles.