Know the Facts
Before You Burn

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Many people burn their trash, but it can be bad for our health and the environment.

There are laws against burning piles of junk. If you break these laws, you can be fined up to $25,000.
Our trash often contains plastic and colored paper packaging that can release harmful chemicals when burned.

These chemicals can get into our bodies from the air we breathe and the food we eat.

The smoke from burning trash can hurt everyone and is especially bad for babies, children, the elderly, and sick people.
Burning Don’ts

• Tires • Furniture • Gasoline • Styrofoam • Glass • Plastics
Burning Do's

- Household paper products
- Small campfires*

*Burn only untreated wood.

Some counties and towns have additional burning restrictions.
Reduce the Need to Burn

- Compost yard waste and fruit and vegetable scraps in a compost pile.
- Reuse as much as you can or give away usable items.
- Take leftover waste to an approved landfill.
- When you can, recycle trash items such as plastic bottles, newspapers, glass, and soda cans.
If you have something you would like to burn, check with local and state officials about burning laws. The fire department cannot give you permission to burn illegal items.

And always be careful.

If you need more information about burning, call 1-888-BURN-LAW