

Tree Burning Areas

Trees and tree trimmings



Burning Guidelines

Unless prohibited by local ordinances or regulations, the open burning of trees and tree trimmings not originating on the premises may occur provided that the following conditions are met:

- Burn site must be operated by a local government entity;
- Burn site must be fenced and access to the site controlled;
- Burning is conducted on a regularly scheduled basis and is supervised at all times;
- Burning is conducted only when weather conditions are favorable with respect to surrounding properties;
- Burn site is limited to areas at least ¼ mile from any inhabitable building unless there is a written waiver from the building owner; and,
- Rubber tires shall not be used to ignite trees and tree trimmings.



Ash

Ash from burning trees and tree trimmings is considered a solid waste and is subject to solid waste management requirements. It has practical applications if used appropriately with DNR approval. The following are options for wood ash management:

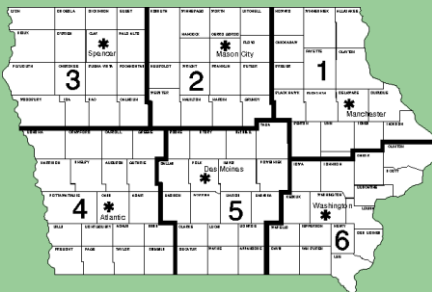
- Liming agent to raise soil pH (requires DNR review)
- Carbon source and bulking agent at compost operations
- Ingredient for concrete
- Landfill alternative daily cover (requires DNR review)
- Fill material (requires DNR review)
- Landfill disposal

For questions about proper ash management, please call 515/725-8200.

Where the open burning of trees and tree trimmings causes air pollution, the DNR may take appropriate action to secure relocation of the burning operation. Open burning rules can be found at Iowa Administrative Code 567-23.2(455B).

Remember, you are legally responsible for any fire you start!

When in doubt, contact your local DNR Field Office for assistance



FO1 563/927-2640 FO4 712/243-1934
FO2 641/424-4073 FO5 515/725-0268
FO3 712/262-4177 FO6 319/653-2135

Burning Code

