

# Pile Guide



Idaho Prescribed  
Fire Council  
IdahoRxFire.org

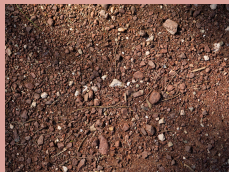
## Building

WHAT  
TO PILE

Logs < 10 inches



Grass, brush, and leaves



Dirt



Building waste



Stumps



Plastic

WHERE  
TO PILE

Open areas



Accessible



Near water



Powerlines



Buildings



Values

HOW  
TO PILE

4.



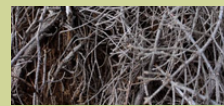
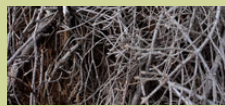
3.



2.



1.



No cover



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## Burning

## INTENSITY

## DURATION

## SMOKE

## CONTROL

### Flame height ~3X pile height

? Are there trees or powerlines that will be impacted by the flame?



Consider starting small and adding to the pile as it burns down



### Expect **HIGH** heat 3 to 15 feet around pile

? Is the area around the pile prepared for when it is too hot to be near?

? Have you cleared to the bare ground around the pile?

*Heat from the pile will dry fuels and they will carry fire*

Heat for

### Larger fuels = longer duration heat



HOURS

DAYS



? Are you prepared to watch the pile until it is COLD?

? Is there high wind or dry weather expected while the pile still has heat?

### Duration of heat = duration of smoke

? Do you have neighbors that will be impacted by your smoke?  
*Contact them so they can prepare*

? Will the smoke lift and disperse?  
*Low-pressure system, moderate winds provide better lift*

### Wet or green fuels = more smoke

? Has the pile been covered?



Covered piles = dryer fuel = less smoke

Covered piles = piles can be dry when surrounding fuel is wet

### Have a plan

? Do you have adequate **water** and **tools** at the ready?  
*Hose, buckets of water, shovel, rake, hoe*

? Do you need a **permit**?

? Have you contacted your **local fire officials** and **neighbors**?

? Have you confirmed the **weather is good** for pile burning now **AND** later?

? Do you know who to **call if the pile escapes**?



**If its too hot to touch its too hot to leave**

