

# Burning Construction & Demolition Debris is Risky Business!



Smoke contains chemicals that can aggravate asthma, cause cancer and other health problems. Ash and runoff can pollute your drinking water and pose a risk to the health of your family and neighbors.

When CDD is burned, the landowner is liable for any contamination of ground and surface water and for the cost of cleanup.

Construction and Demolition Debris (CDD) may be buried only on the site where it was generated, provided the area of disposal is less than one acre and there are no additional disposal areas on the property. Otherwise, all CDD should be removed by a licensed solid waste transporter.

## Ask these questions before you burn wood from CDD

### Will you burn the debris on the site where it was generated?

Wood from construction and demolition debris (CDD) may be disposed or burned only on the site where it is generated, provided the area of disposal is less than one acre and there are no additional disposal areas on the property. It is illegal to collect and stockpile or burn wood from CDD generated offsite. Wood Construction and Demolition Debris means wood wastes from the demolition or construction of buildings.

### Have you separated all non-wood waste from the pile?

Only wood wastes and wood from CDD generated onsite may be burned. "Wood waste" means: brush, stumps, lumber, bark, wood chips, shavings, slabs, edgings, slash, sawdust and wood from production rejects that are not mixed with other solid or liquid waste. "Lumber" must be made entirely of wood and be free from metal, plastics, coatings and chemical treatments.

### Is the wood painted or stained?

Assume anything built prior to 1978 contains lead paint. Airborne lead from burning lead-based paint can pose a health hazard. Ash resulting from burning wood coated in lead point may contain harmful levels of lead. We recommend disposing of ash at a licensed solid waste facility.

### Is there a protected resource (stream, lake, ocean) nearby?

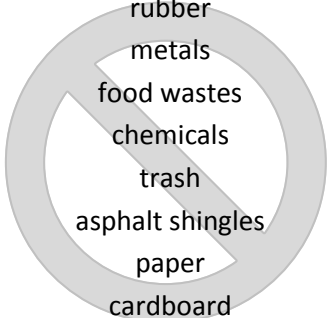
Steps must be taken to prevent runoff from the burn pile from contaminating nearby waterbodies, such as installing a silt fence or other erosion barrier between the protected resource and the burn pile.

### Have you obtained an open burning permit?

Burning on-site for disposal of wood wastes from CDD requires a permit from the Town Forest Fire Warden, Forest Ranger, or local fire prevention official. It is a Class E crime to burn without a permit.

## Never Burn

These materials produce  
dangerous smoke & ash



- treated wood
- plastics
- Styrofoam
- wire insulation
- vinyl siding
- asbestos-containing materials
- rubber
- metals
- food wastes
- chemicals
- trash
- asphalt shingles
- paper
- cardboard
- mattresses
- furniture
- tires
- tar
- paints
- solvents
- sludge
- insulation
- other solid & liquid waste