

# FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS



Please read the following pages for information on:

- **Campfire Safety, and**
- **Performing Controlled Burns**

# CAMPFIRE SAFETY



- Build fire in area away from overhanging trees and on flat ground
- Clear area of all leaf & woody debris
- Ring your fire area with rocks or other noncombustible material
- Keep your fire small
- **NEVER leave a fire unattended**
- Have water and shovel on hand
- Put out fire at first signs of increased winds and/or changes in wind direction

# Putting Out Your Campfire

If your campfire is not “dead out”, wind can rekindle the embers and start a wildfire. Follow these steps.



Keep plenty of water handy and have a shovel for throwing dirt on the fire if it gets out of control.



Stir the remains, add more water and stir again. Be sure all burned material has been put out and cooled. Smaller pieces of wood are easier to put out than large logs.



Be sure your match is out cold. Break it so you can feel the charred portion before carefully discarding it.



Feel all materials with your bare hand. Make sure that no roots are burning.



Drown the fire with water. Make sure all embers and sticks are wet. Move rocks - there may be burning embers underneath.



Campfires may be banned if wildfires are likely. Watch for signs and obey them.

# CONTROLLED BURNING

Do you want to responsibly burn brush and debris, and don't want the fire department responding to calls by concerned citizens who may see the smoke from your fire?

See the following pages for information on reporting controlled burns...



# **CALL BEFORE YOU BURN!**

## **REPORT YOUR CONTROLLED BURNS TO DISPATCH**

(this includes agricultural and slash burning)

**Call 24 hours a day**

**San Miguel County: 970-728-1911**

Every year the Sheriff's Office, Your Local Fire Department and Federal agencies respond to controlled burns that have not been reported.

**It is your responsibility to call in burning on your property,  
before you burn.**

Visit [SANMIGUELCOUNTY.ORG/PREPAREDNESS](http://SANMIGUELCOUNTY.ORG/PREPAREDNESS) for more preparedness information

<http://www.sanmiguelcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/104>

<http://www.sanmiguelcounty.org/174/Emergency-Management>

<http://www.cowildfire.org>

# Controlled Burn Checklist

- ✓ Report controlled burns to San Miguel County Dispatch at 970-728-1911
- ✓ NO BURNING IS ALLOWED ON RED FLAG DAYS! Is it windy and dry? Is there a Red Flag warning for Zone 291 (check with Dispatch or this weather link)? If so, by County Ordinance, no burning is allowed on red flag days  
[forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lon=-107.89799&lat=38.02847#.Vz5HB\\_IMHqD](https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lon=-107.89799&lat=38.02847#.Vz5HB_IMHqD)
- ✓ If you are burning over several days call in each day
- ✓ Clear an area 10 to 15 feet around the burn site and do not leave the fire unattended
- ✓ Keep the fire small enough so you can control it. Call the Dispatch if you think you need help! It's better to be safe than sorry.
- ✓ Maintain a means of communication at the site if possible (cell phone, etc)
- ✓ Have a plan to extinguish the fire (garden hose, buckets of water, flat shovel)
- ✓ When done, make sure the fire is completely out and call Dispatch to inform them the burn is complete at 970-728-1911