



## ***CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT***

306 MAROON AVENUE • P.O. BOX 1009

CRESTED BUTTE, CO 81224

(970) 349-5333

ADMINISTRATION FAX: (970) 349-3420 • OPERATIONS FAX: (970) 349-0438

WEBSITE: WWW.CBFPD.ORG

---

### **Guidelines for Safe Burning**

**\*\*Notify Gunnison County Communications at 641-8200 before igniting your fire\*\***

#### **DITCH AND FIELD BURNING**

1. Notify Gunnison County Communications at 641-8200 before igniting a ditch or field fire. Notify them again upon completion of burn.
2. Consider options to burning. Mowing fields may provide similar results without the risks of an escaped fire.
3. Keep in mind fuels and topography. Dense fuels and slope will cause a fire to increase in intensity. These fires will burn hotter and move faster and are difficult to fight.
4. Don't burn alone. Have several helpers.
5. Have a shovel or rake for every person helping you.
6. Wear appropriate clothing. Synthetic Fibers will melt. You should wear cotton/wool outerwear, leather boots and leather gloves.
7. Set up a water source before burning. Have a garden hose that will reach entire burn. For larger fires have a pickup or ATV with a water tank. Turn water on before burning.
8. Check the weather. You can obtain a local forecast by visiting the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration web site at [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov). Keep in mind that this will give a general forecast for an area. Weather conditions can change within a very small area due to land formations. Postpone your burn if windy weather is predicted.
9. Personally observe weather conditions. Postpone your burn even if it is slightly breezy. Observe the sky; postpone your burn if you can see thunderstorms building in any direction.
10. Plan the area to be burned, and keep the burn area small enough so that if the wind increases, you can put fire out.
11. Make sure there is a barrier between the fire and any buildings, propane tanks, etc. Barriers may be roads, streams, driveways or lawns. You can be held criminally and financially responsible if you destroy your neighbor's property.
12. Mow around utility poles and telephone pedestals before burning. Wet down grass at base of poles with water.
13. Dial 911 immediately if fire starts to get away. Have a cell phone with you while burning.
14. If fire gets away from you, don't get in front of it. Begin fighting the fire at its base and progress around the sides. Stay inside the safety of the burned area, or close enough to it so you can quickly get in it all times.
15. Don't leave fire unsupervised. Take extra time to make sure it is completely out before you leave it.