

FIREWISE KITTITAS COUNTY

Snoqualmie Pass Defensible Space Project You cut itWe chip it!

The Kittitas County Conservation District, the county Fire Marshal, Fire District 7, Fire District 51 and the Department of Natural Resources are working together to help reduce forest debris in Kittitas County by providing a roving chipper in your area.

We can also schedule free, no obligation Firewise Assessments of your property. . Contact Suzanne Wade at the Kittitas County Conservation District at (509) 925-3352 ext 202 or suzanne-wade@conserveva.net if you are interested. If you need a little extra help, our crew may be available to help you thin and prune. Call Suzanne for more information on this separate program.

Here's how it works:

1. The landowner does the cutting on their property and places it adjacent to the main roads and/or driveway, but not blocking any traffic (follow the instructions and suggestions below).
2. The chipper crew will come out to the site and chip debris that will be blown back onto forest floor.

What is needed from the landowner:

- ✓ When stacking the debris, please place all the stems of trees and brush pointing in the same direction with the cut ends toward the road. This makes the pile easier to pull apart to feed the chipper.
- ✓ Individual cut pieces must not be longer than 8 feet in length and/or thicker than 8" in diameter.
- ✓ Use of saws is only allowed on IFPL level 1 and 2. The IFPL for any given day will be posted and available by calling DNR at 509-925-8510 between 8 and 4:30.
- ✓ Individual requirements for saws are as follows:
 - A shovel, fire extinguisher and 5 gallons of water must be in the immediate area where the saw is operating.
 - Saws may operate throughout the day in a level 1 and only until 1:00 PM on level 2 days.

What kind of work should be done?

- ✓ A minimum of 30' foot radius around the structure of lean, clean.
- ✓ Remove brush away from the structure.
- ✓ Limb trees up to 15 feet but no more than 50% of tree height, whichever comes first.
- ✓ Rake pine needles and leaves 30' from the structures, off decks and roofs. Please do not put the needles and leaves in the pile to be chipped, the chipper will plug with that debris.
- ✓ Continue the process across your property reducing the fuels that would allow the fire to spread into the crowns of trees, "ladder fuels", pruning, removal of brush near trees, and large accumulations of dead and down ground debris.
- ✓ Remove brush, limbs and thin trees along access roads for safe ingress and egress.