# 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.

**Construction and Demolition Debris (CDD) is wood and non-wood wastes from the demolition or construction of buildings. CDD also includes road pavement (asphalt), fish nets, mattresses, and furniture.**

## For information on open burning permits, contact Maine Forest Service

**Southern Region Headquarters**
Bolton Hill, Augusta
(207) 624-3700
**Central Region Headquarters**
Old Town
(207) 827-1800
**Northern Region Headquarters**
Ashland
(207) 435-7963

**It is legal to burn only the wood portion of Construction and Demolition Debris (CDD). It is illegal to burn treated wood, shingles, siding, wiring, insulation, and all other non-wood materials.**

## For information on disposal of CDD Contact Maine DEP

**Central Maine Regional Office**
Augusta
800-452-1942
**Eastern Maine Regional Office**
Bangor
888-769-1137
**Northern Maine Reg. Office**
Presque Isle
888-759-1053
**Southern Maine Reg. Office**
Portland
888-769-1036

www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/solidwaste

# ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT BURNING CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS?

## Protect Yourself and Others

## Follow the Law

# Never Burn

**These materials produce especially dangerous smoke and 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 and liquid wastes**

**Call a licensed solid waste transporter to safely dispose of CDD at a licensed solid waste disposal facility. Contact the DEP for a list of licensed transporters:**
1-800-452-1942

# 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 paint may contain harmful levels of lead. We recommend disposing of ash at a licensed solid waste facility (landfill).

***Is there a protected resource (i.e. 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.