

Learn Before You Burn

Example Facebook messages:



#1) All wood burning creates some smoke and particulate pollution, and no fire can ever be 100 percent pollution-free. However, learning how to “burn smarter” will help to reduce wood smoke and other pollution that could pose health risks to you, your family, and your neighbors. It also may help to reduce conflicts with neighbors and prevent police or fire officials from having to step in to resolve conflicts. Learn more at LearnBeforeYouBurn.com

#2) Spending time around a recreational fire on a summer evening can be a fun activity that can spark lasting memories. Burning smarter will help you have a more enjoyable experience, make cleanup easier and helps to reduce smoke and pollutants for both you and your neighbors. Learn more at LearnBeforeYouBurn.com

#3) Having a backyard fire? Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood that has been split properly into pieces that will catch fire and burn thoroughly. Properly seasoned wood is often darker, has cracks in the end grain, and makes a “hollow sound” when smacked against another piece of wood. Firewood moisture meters are available at hardware and fireplace specialty stores. Use wood that has a moisture content of 20% or less. Learn more at LearnBeforeYouBurn.com

#4) It is important never to burn household garbage, painted or stained wood, plastics, chemically treated paper or garbage in your backyard fire. Not only is this practice illegal, it is also hazardous and dangerous to you, your family and to your neighbors. Burn only seasoned, dry firewood or manufactured fire logs. Learn more at LearnBeforeYouBurn.com

#5) The emerald ash borer and other invasive insects has led to firewood quarantines in some parts of Minnesota. Make certain you are not inadvertently spreading these destructive pests. See this Minnesota Department of Agriculture website for more details.

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/emeraldashborer>

#6) Be considerate of your neighbors when you have a backyard fire. Talk to them about how your fires affect them. Make sure your fire is well constructed and not left to smolder. Learn more at LearnBeforeYouBurn.com