



Prescott Area Wildland/Urban Interface Commission

Telephone: 928-777-1733

CRITERIA FOR CHIPPER SERVICE

Prescott Area Wildland/Urban Interface Commission (PAWUIC) has placed a second chipper in service for homeowners who have provided defensible space by reducing the fuel load around their properties.

Defensible space is the area between a house and an oncoming wildfire where the vegetation has been modified to reduce the wildfire threat and to provide an opportunity for firefighters to effectively defend the house.

Since the recent fires in the Southwest, people realize the importance of providing defensible space for the protection of their property. PAWUIC has provided trained personnel to assist the homeowner with brush disposal, once the homeowner has provided defensible space and has called the fire department for an assessment.

The following is a list of **DO'S** and **DONT'S** in preparation for the arriving chipping service.

- DO lay brush along streets for easy access.
- DO have cut ends of brush or trees facing street.
- DO make longer piles, instead of higher piles. (3'to 4' high max).
- DO maintain a safe distance from the chipper, while it is in operation, for your safety.
- DON'T use twine or string to tie bundles of brush together.
- DON'T request chipping of brush that has been lying around for years (this damages the chipper blades and is much more dangerous for the fire crew to handle).
- DON'T place pine needles or other leaf litter in brush piles; disposal of this material will be the homeowner's responsibility.
- DON'T have rocks, root balls, cactus, agaves or other debris in brush piles; the brush will not be chipped.
- DON'T use mechanical means; i.e., tractor, shovel, broom, to push or move brush piles; the brush cannot be chipped.
- DON'T place material in bags, the bags cannot be put in the chipper.

Thank you for your support in making the Prescott Basin a safer place to live.