

# THE ART OF PILE BUILDING

A Pile Building workshop



**DATE: Saturday May 31st 5:00 - 6:30 PM (CST)**

**Location: Hubachek Wilderness Research Center**

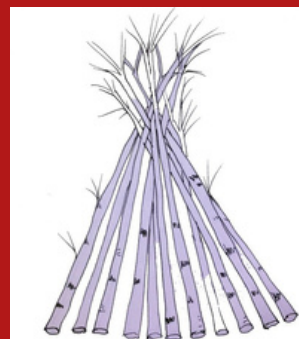
**Cost: FREE**

**Outdoor event**

\*Wear sturdy shoes, long pants and a shirt. Bring gloves for handling wood.  
Bring water bottle, bug spray and maybe a bug head net\*

**Instructors from The Nature Conservancy and Superior National Forest**

**Join us for a hands on pile building experience  
and learn how to safely burn them**



The United States Department of Agriculture is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# THE ART OF PILE BUILDING

Many cabin owners construct hand piles in order to create defensible space in case of wildfires. This flier has been compiled as a helpful aid for building easy-to-burn hand piles.



**Think SMALL  
Not TALL**

## HAND PILING

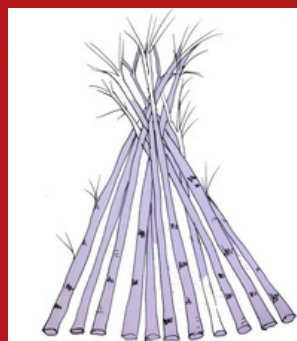
Several effective stacking methods are shown. Personal preference and the nature of materials to be stacked will affect which one you choose.



Cross hatching can be a good base for a burn pile or for a feeder pile, especially if the burning is done when there is snow on the ground. The base keeps the fine fuels away from the moisture on the ground.



Dome-shaped piles are a natural result with brushy material, including shrubs and conifer boughs. Large amounts of conifer needles provide a good cap against infiltrating moisture.



Cone shaped piles are not inherently compact and can be difficult to ignite during wet conditions. Covering the structure until time to burn will help. cone shaped piles can also be built as a feeder pile.



Feeder piles are a good way to burn a large amount of debris safely. Material can be pulled from a larger pile into a new smaller pile. The small pile can be kept under better control and can be burned in a smaller clearing. Feeder piles allow you to regulate the size of the fire. Dry tinder may be used to start the fire.



The United States Department of Agriculture is an equal opportunity provider and employer.