



# EQUIPMENT SAFETY

Practice Using Equipment Safely

LEARN HOW TO USE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT PROPERLY TO HELP KEEP FROM SPARKING A WILDFIRE:

## MOWING



MOW BEFORE 10 A.M., BUT NEVER WHEN IT'S WINDY OR EXCESSIVELY DRY.



LAWN MOWERS ARE DESIGNED TO MOW LAWNS, NOT WEEDS OR DRY GRASS.



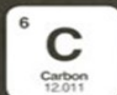
METAL BLADES STRIKING ROCKS CAN CREATE SPARKS AND START FIRES.

## SPARK ARRESTERS



IN WILDLAND AREAS, SPARK ARRESTERS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL PORTABLE GASOLINE-POWERED EQUIPMENT. THIS INCLUDES TRACTORS, HARVESTERS, CHAINSAWS, WEED EATERS AND MOWERS.

KEEP THE EXHAUST SYSTEM, SPARK ARRESTERS AND MOWER IN PROPER WORKING ORDER AND FREE OF CARBON BUILDUP.



USE THE RECOMMENDED GRADE OF FUEL AND DON'T TOP IT OFF.

## EQUIPMENT USE



KEEP A SHOVEL AND A FIRE EXTINGUISHER READY TO USE.



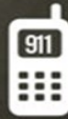
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IN WILDLAND AREAS, GRINDING AND WELDING OPERATIONS REQUIRE A PERMIT AND 10-FEET OF CLEARANCE.



DON'T DRIVE YOUR VEHICLE ONTO DRY GRASS OR BRUSH. HOT EXHAUST PIPES AND MUFFLERS CAN START FIRES THAT YOU WON'T EVEN SEE—UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!



KEEP A CELL PHONE NEARBY AND CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY IN CASE OF FIRE.

## TERRAIN



TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY, DO NOT CLEAR VEGETATION NEAR WATERWAYS TO BARE SOIL.



VEGETATION REMOVAL CAN CAUSE SOIL EROSION, ESPECIALLY ON STEEP SLOPES.



KEEP SOIL DISTURBANCE TO A MINIMUM.

**ONE LESS SPARK**  
ONE LESS WILDFIRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND A PRINT-READY CAMPFIRE PERMIT VISIT:  
[PREVENTWILDFIRECA.ORG](http://PREVENTWILDFIRECA.ORG)  
#PREVENTWILDFIRE #ONELESSSPARK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE CALIFORNIA WILDLAND FIRE COORDINATING GROUP (CWCG)

# Here's how to do it the right way

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## Mowing

Mow before 10 a.m., but never when it's windy or excessively dry. Lawn mowers are designed to mow lawns, not weeds or dry grass. Have 2 people present, 1 doing the mowing, the other doing fire watch. Have your cell phone with you, and have a 5 gallon fire extinguisher available and ready to use.

- Metal blades striking rocks can create sparks and start fires. Use caution.
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## Spark Arresters

In wildland areas, spark arresters are required on all portable gasoline-powered equipment. This includes tractors, harvesters, chainsaws, weed eaters and mowers.

- Keep the exhaust system, spark arresters and mower in proper working order and free of carbon buildup.
  - Use the recommended grade of fuel and don't top it off.
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## Equipment Use

In wildland areas, grinding and welding operations require a permit and 10 feet of clearance. Keep a shovel and a fire extinguisher ready to use.

- Don't drive your vehicle onto dry grass or brush. Hot exhaust pipes and mufflers can start fires that you won't even see - until it's too late!
  - Keep a cell phone nearby and call 911 immediately in case of fire.
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## Environment

To protect water quality, do not clear vegetation near waterways to bare soil. Vegetation removal can cause soil erosion especially on steep slopes.

Always keep soil disturbance to a minimum

- See more at: <http://www.readyforwildfire.org/equipmentuse#sthash.oh31WCfE.dpuf>