



Forest Service  
Coconino National Forest  
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# News Release



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## Pile burns planned Thursday

**FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., Dec. 12, 2018, For Immediate Release** — Fire managers will be conducting green waste pile burns and slash pile burns south of Flagstaff starting Thursday morning.

Fire managers are planning to conduct pile burns west of Interstate 17 near Willard Springs exit and near the closed southbound rest area. The first is a 6-acre area at the Coconino County green waste transfer station 17 miles south of Flagstaff this morning. The second set of large piles sits on more than 200 acres near the closed rest area. Smoke will be evident to the surrounding communities and motorists using I-17. Smoke is expected to disperse toward the southwest and settle in Oak Creek Canyon and other low lying areas during the evening hours near the burn sites. If conditions allow, pile burns will continue Friday.

The green waste station pile burns reduce the existing stockpile of pine needles, tree trimmings and other green waste at the transfer station before the start of the 2019 fire season. The piles are expected to smolder until spring and will be monitored by the Coconino National Forest, Pinewood Fire Department and Coconino County Public Works Solid Waste Division. The large pile near the closed rest area are from the Munds Park thinning project.

The public and media can get notifications of the ignition of prescribed burning or any other activity happening on the Coconino National Forest by following us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/CoconinoNF](https://www.twitter.com/CoconinoNF).

Coconino National Forest works closely with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to monitor smoke impacts. Individuals sensitive to smoke can learn how to protect their health by visiting the Coconino County Public Health Service District website at <http://bit.ly/SmokeHealthAwareness>.

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Flagstaff Ranger Station: (928) 526-0866  
Mogollon Rim Ranger Station: (928) 477-2255  
Red Rock Ranger Station: (928) 282-4119



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