

Town of Vail Chipping Program

Helping you protect your home from wildfire



The Town of Vail and Vail Fire and Emergency Services are helping residents and property owners create defensible space by providing free chipping and disposal for branches, logs and small trees. If you clear woody vegetation from around your home and stack it in a slash pile, we'll chip it and haul it away at no cost.



To schedule a free no obligation defensible space consultation with a wildfire expert, contact the Vail Fire Wildland Division Hotline at 970.477.3509.

What is Defensible Space?

Defensible space is an area around the home where trees, shrubs and other vegetation are thinned or removed to slow the spread of wildfire.

Defensible space helps firefighters better defend your home from wildfire as well as reducing the chances that a fire in your home spreads to the surrounding forest.

Every home in Vail should have proper defensible space.

Material Guidelines

Accepted materials include trees, logs and branches up to 15" in diameter, free of nails and wire. The following restrictions apply:

- No willow branches
- No construction or building materials
- No treated lumber, fence posts or signs
- No shrubs, root wads, stumps dirt or rocks
- No grass clippings, trash, weeds or bags of leaves

Pile Guidelines

Slash piles will be chipped on Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 29th through October 14th, 2021. Call the Vail Fire Wildland Division Hot line at 970.477.3509 to let us know when you have a pile ready.

- Stack piles neatly (no bags), with large ends facing the road
- Place piles within 5' of the roadway, but not touching the road or in drainage ditches
- Maximum pile size is 5'x5'x5' per pile with no limit to the number of piles.



75 South Frontage Road
Vail, Colorado 81657
970.477.3509 | vailgov.com