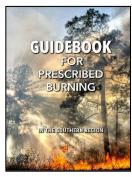
## BE SMOKE SAVVY! Georgia Prescribed Fire Smoke Management Pocket Guide

## BEFORE THE BURN

- Understand and Follow Local, State, and Federal Prescribed Burn Laws and Regulations
  - Get a permit for the correct acreage through the <u>Georgia</u> <u>Forestry Commission</u>.
  - o If you are a certified burner, use the online permitting system
- Write a Burn Plan that Lists Objectives of Burn, Smoke Management, and Contingency Plans.
  - o Find great info on burn planning through the Georgia
    Prescribed Fire Council, Southern Fire Exchange, Georgia
    Forestry Commission Burn Certification Course, and in the Guidebook for Prescribed Burning in the Southern Region.
- Choose Appropriate Weather for Fire and Smoke.
  - Use the <u>Fire Weather Dashboard</u> to get all of your relevant fire and smoke related weather forecasts.
  - Follow recommendations for transport winds, dispersion index, mixing height, Turner Stability, LVORI, etc.
  - o Only burn when smoke dispersion conditions are favorable.
- Identify, Map, and Avoid Impacting Smoke Sensitive Areas.
  - Utilize the <u>Smoke Management Guide</u>.
  - Use the <u>Wildfire Public Viewer</u> to see where others are burning (switch the view to "Restrictions").
  - In high smoke risk areas, explore additional or alternative methods to burning.
- Match Appropriate Smoke Impact Screening Tools to Burn Complexity
  - o Use <u>VSmoke</u> or the <u>Simple Smoke Screening Tool</u> to see where your smoke is going.
  - O Use BlueSky, Hysplit, or PB-Piedmont on higher complexity burns.







- Be Aware of Other Burning and Sources of Pollution in Your Area. Consider that you are sharing the airshed with other burners.
  - Use the Georgia Winds and Air Quality Map or the Smoke Conditions in the Southeast Map to check on current wind direction for your area and air quality in the region. You can even look at forecasted winds to see current trends.
  - o Use the AirNow Fire and Smoke Map to check on air quality.





- Notify Appropriate Parties That You Are Burning.
  - This could include neighbors, public agencies, law enforcement, local fire departments, etc.

## **DURING THE BURN**

- Use a Test Fire to Verify Expected Smoke Dispersion.
- When Feasible, Use Ignition Patterns and Methods Which Minimize Smoke Production and Maximize Lift.
  - o Finish ignition early to promote smoke lift.
- Monitor Changing Weather Conditions and Respond to Unintended Smoke Impacts.
- Be Aware of Smoke Watch Outs.
  - These include sea breezes, heavy fuels, large piles, logging slash, unburned stands with duff smoldering potential.
- Consider Contingency Plans to Cut Burns Off if Smoke Becomes an Issue.



## AFTER THE BURN

- Minimize Impacts from Smoldering Fire Using Appropriate Mop-Up Standards.
- Include Smoke Management in your AAR:
  - O What worked and what did not?
  - o What weather prescription parameters would you change to improve it next time?
- Know the Weather Forecast for the Night and the Following Day and Make Sure They are Appropriate for Smoke Management.
- Be Aware of Where Your Smoke Goes at Night
  - o What is the LVORI?
  - Smoke drifts down drainage. What does that mean for you?
- Enhance Smoke Management Skills through Training and Experience.
  - Attend Georgia Prescribed Fire Council meetings.
  - Participate in Lean and Burns.
  - o Become active in your local Prescribed Burn Association.

