



FREE Summit County

# CHIPPING PROGRAM

## Protect Your Home from Wildfire

### SUCCESS IN WILDFIRE MITIGATION

Summit County is recognized across the West as a leader in community wildfire protection. In 2008, local voters approved a mill levy that funds a variety of wildfire mitigation programs, including the Summit County Chipping Program, which launched in 2014.

Through the Chipping Program, thousands of Summit County residents and property owners have taken concrete steps to protect their homes from wildfire. Here are some highlights of our community's success in the program's first three years:

- **5,430** participating households
- **16,191** slash piles chipped
- **16,180** cubic yards of woody material chipped and collected

Summit County government is 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.

### MATERIALS GUIDELINES

Accepted materials include trees, logs and branches up to 9 inches in diameter, free of nails and wire. The following restrictions apply:

- No willows: Willows help to slow the spread of fire, because they have high moisture content. Willows are also very fibrous, so they clog our chipping equipment.
- No cottonwood: Cottonwoods are important native trees that stabilize stream banks, take up storm water and serve as riparian wildlife habitat.
- No construction or building materials, treated lumber, fence posts or signs.
- No shrubs, root wads, stumps, dirt or rocks: These items clog and damage our chipping equipment.
- No grass clippings, trash, weeds or bags of leaves.

### DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Defensible space is an area around a home where trees and other flammable vegetation are cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire toward the building. Defensible space creates a safe zone for firefighters to carry out their work, and it reduces the chance that a structure fire will move to the surrounding forest. Every home in Summit County should have defensible space.

To schedule a free defensible-space assessment of your property, call Lake Dillon Fire (970-262-5209), Red White & Blue Fire (970-453-2474) or Copper Mountain Fire (970-968-2300).

### PILE GUIDELINES

Piles must be stacked by 8 a.m. on the Monday of your neighborhood's designated chipping week (see reverse for schedule), so that our chipping crews can identify pile locations and plan their routes for that week. Chipping and collection will take place Monday through Friday of your neighborhood's designated chipping week. Improperly stacked piles, and any piles stacked after 8 a.m. on Monday, may not be identified or collected.

- Stack piles neatly (no bags), with the large ends of branches facing the road.
- Place piles within 5 feet of the roadway, but not touching the road or in drainage ditches.
- Maximum pile size is 5'x5'x5'. There is no limit on the number of piles you may put out.
- After crews have removed your pile, clear away any remaining branches, needles and debris.
- Do not combine piles with neighbors or place piles in other neighborhoods.
- If you would like to keep your chips, tie a piece of red yarn or flagging in a prominent spot on the pile.

PROPERLY STACKED PILE



IMPROPERLY STACKED PILE



# CHIPPING PROGRAM

## Service Map and Schedule

### CENTRAL AND NORTHERN SUMMIT COUNTY

- Week 1** June 26–30
- Week 8** August 14–18  
Frisco, Copper Mountain
- Week 2** July 3–7
- Week 9** August 21–25  
Montezuma, Keystone, Summit Cove, Summerwood
- Week 3** July 10–14
- Week 10** August 28 – September 1  
Corinthian Hill, Dillon, Dillon Valley, Mesa Cortina, Wildernest
- Week 4** July 17–21
- Week 11** September 4–8  
Ptarmigan, Silverthorne
- Week 5** July 24–28
- Week 12** September 11–15  
Ruby Ranch, Willowbrook to Golden Eagle Road
- Week 6** July 31 – August 4
- Week 13** September 18–22  
Eagles Nest, Three Peaks, South Forty, Hamilton Creek, Sage Creek Canyon
- Week 7** August 7–11
- Week 14** September 25–29  
Pebble Creek to Heeney

### SOUTHERN SUMMIT COUNTY

- Week 1** June 26–30
- Week 8** August 14–18  
Quandary to Tordal Estates
- Week 2** July 3–7
- Week 9** August 21–25  
Town of Blue River
- Week 3** July 10–14
- Week 10** August 28 – September 1  
Spruce Valley Road (The Crown), Spruce Valley Ranch, Warrior's Mark
- Week 4** July 17–21
- Week 11** September 4–8  
Boreas, Baldy, Moonstone, Western Sky Ranch
- Week 5** July 24–28
- Week 12** September 11–15  
Peak 7, Peak 8, Peak 9
- Week 6** July 31 – August 4
- Week 13** September 18–22  
Highlands, Summit Estates
- Week 7** August 7–11
- Week 14** September 25–29  
Silver Shekel, Highland Meadows, Tenmile Vista, Gold Hill, Farmer's Korner



Chipping operations in southern Summit County will be conducted concurrently with those in central and northern Summit County