

Call us and we can help you find a trash hauler in your area or visit our website



www.bmswd.com/HaulersMap.htm

Protect yourself, family, and friends and stop burning today!!

You can also use the following tips to cut down on the amount of trash that you produce- it may save you money.

Reduce

Buy things in bulk, and avoid products with excessive packaging.

Reuse

Sell or donate things you no longer need or want. Also consider purchasing used items.

Recycle

Take aluminum cans, glass, paper, steel, cardboard, newspaper, and plastic to your local recycling center.



Compost

Combine kitchen scraps, leaves, and other yard waste at home to make rich soil. It's easy and educational!



Burning household trash is illegal in Arkansas!

Open burning has been illegal in Arkansas since 1972, yet it is still a problem in rural areas. There are many reasons why people still burn:

- Do not know that open burning is illegal in Arkansas
- Habit or family tradition passed down through generations
- Not aware that trash service is available where he/she lives
- Lack of knowledge about other disposal options
- Disregard for the dangers of burning trash

The most important person in the effort to stop open burning in Arkansas is **YOU!** Together we can help protect ourselves and our children from the dangers of burning trash. If you want to find a trash hauler in your area, call us toll free at 1-888-426-9278 or visit www.bmswd.com

Burning Trash Your Health Up In Smoke



Boston Mountain Solid Waste District

11398 Bond Road
Prairie Grove, AR 72753
(479) 846-3005
1-888-426-9278
www.bmswd.com

What is the problem with burning?

The problem is that people burn their trash (often in steel drums) without controlling the temperature or the emissions. This is referred to as open burning.



The Big Problem with burning trash.... Dioxin

Dioxins are a group of chemical compounds that contain chlorine and were the primary component in Agent Orange- a chemical used in the Vietnam War. They are extremely harmful even in low levels. Dioxins are formed when household trash is burned. Once dioxins are released into the air they can be inhaled into our bodies, yet this is not the only risk. Dioxins can also be consumed. Dioxins in the air can travel far away and take a very long time to disappear. Once they settle on plants, soil, and in the water, they are eaten by animals and fish. Dioxins will stay in the meat and fat of animals and fish. They are then consumed (eaten) by humans.

People have been burning trash for years. Why is burning a problem now?

The items in household trash have changed a lot over the past 20 years. For example, products that used to be reusable are now packaged in disposable single use containers, usually made out of plastic. The fire in burn barrels is not hot enough to destroy the toxins that are in plastics so they are released. You may think that the small amount of trash that you burn does not compare to the toxins released by big industries but you would be surprised. Backyard trash burning is the largest producer of dioxin emissions in the United States!

What are some of the health problems with burning?

Health problems caused by burning trash include respiratory problems such as asthma, emphysema, and bronchitis. Skin rashes are another health problem caused by the chemicals during burning, and dioxin exposure increases risks for cancer.

Who is most at risk?

Children are most affected by burning trash! According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, there are three major reasons why children are at high risk when exposed to burning trash:



(1) Exposure to toxic materials can affect development and growth. Children are in more danger because their bodies absorb up to six times more particles than adults breathing in the same air.

(2) Children eat and drink proportionately more than adults. They also play outside a lot, which creates more exposure to harmful toxins.

(3) Children are not as able to protect themselves from the dangers. They seem to explore and possibly expose themselves to more hazardous substances.