



HOW TO DO A CONTROLLED BURN OF HEAPED MATERIALS SAFELY



WHEN YOU CAN DO

1



- Call the fire brigade or the Municipal Civil Protection unit.
- Check the fire risk index online at www.ipma.pt or www.icnf.pt.

2



- Controlled burns are prohibited during the **Critical Fire Period** and on days with a **Very High** or **Maximum** risk index.
- Do not undertake controlled burns when the weather is **hot and dry** or when it is **windy**.

3



- Choose **cloudy** and **wet** days.
- Take your **mobile phone** with you so you can raise the alarm in case of fire.
- Have **someone else** with you when you do the burn.

* 1st of July to the 30th of September, but its duration may be changed depending on the weather conditions.



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HOW TO DO

4



- Move the pile of left-over materials that you are going to burn away from **grazing land, woods, scrubland** and **trees**.
- Make a **vegetation-free firebreak** around the things that you are going to burn.
- Wet the firebreak** before you start the burn.
- Have a container with **water** or a hose alongside the site of the burn.

5



- Make several **small piles** instead of big ones.
- Burn the left-over waste in **batches**.

6



- Stay **vigilant**. If any sparks fly, put them out immediately.
- Leaving a burn unattended is **prohibited**.
- Pay attention to changes in the **wind**. Protect yourself from the smoke by covering your mouth and nose with damp cloths or a smoke mask. Inhaling smoke can be **fatal**.
- If the burn gets out of control keep a safe distance and dial **112**.

HOW TO PUT OUT

7



- Keep burning until only **ashes** are left.
- Turn over** the burnt remains to see if any small flames still persist.
- Put the burn site out with **water** or by **throwing earth** on top of it.
- Do not leave the site until you have checked that there is **no smoke** coming from the **ashes**.



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