



# Fire (open burning) is not a safe or effective way to manage waste

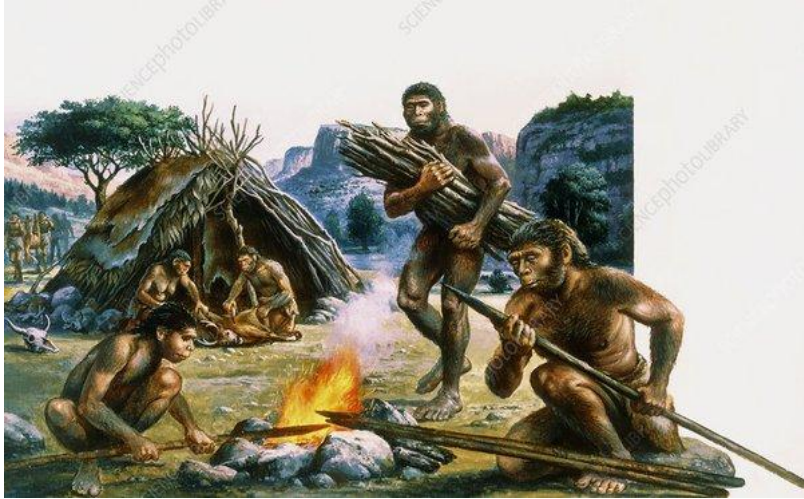


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# Fire is Essential, Sacred, and Communal!



# Burning waste is bad, period!



## Instant(!) pollution and long-term impact to the air, land and water

- Arsenic, Mercury, Lead
- Asbestos
- Carbon monoxide
- Particulate matter
- Hydrochloric Acids
- Hydrogen Cyanide
- Hydrogen Sulfide
- Nitrogen Oxides
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
- Sulfur Oxides
- Volatile Organic Compounds
- Burned materials cannot be recycled or reused



## Immediate(!) health risks to vulnerable, negative long-term impacts to all community members

- Difficulty breathing
- Eye, nose and throat irritation
- Lung irritation/congestion
- Stomach/intestinal issues
- Eye damage
- Headaches
- Heart damage
- Cancer
- Lung damage
- Metabolic poisoning
- Potential burns or death
- Potential community evacuations



# Basic 4-point Strategy For Dealing with Waste Fires

1. Don't start waste/garbage fires!
2. Try to prevent waste/garbage fires in your community!
3. Plan/prepare so that you're ready when waste/garbage fires happen!
4. Respond/deal with emergency waste/garbage fires safely and effectively!

5. Now, let's get creative and turn our thinking into a “Don't Burn Waste/Garbage” communication tool we can use to educate and engage our community..
  - It's your choice whether you want to create a 1 page poster, a brochure, a slide show you can use at community meeting, or ALL THREE. The point is to think about which essential messages you want to convey, and what's the best way to share those messages with the key members of your community.
  - Use your imagination and creativity. Play with colors, sketch/draw if you're feeling like it or just put boxes where you think images might go and make a note of what images you have in mind.
  - Your table can make more than one version, just try to agree on the key messages you want to share with the community

1. Does your waste management team, public works, or other departments burn waste/garbage? What parts of the waste/garbage stream do you currently burn?
2. How do you feel about the practice of burning waste? Share any experiences you've had with fires at your waste site and operations.
3. Does anything we discussed today change your thinking about burning waste/garbage?

4. Have a look at the 4 sample information resources at your table. Discuss the following:
  - Generally, which of the 4 examples do you think would be most effective to use in your community? Why?
  - Of all of the information contained in the 4 examples, what basic facts and key messages do you think would be most important and impactful to convey to your community members?

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