

About Fires

Fire creates and maintains plant and animal habitats throughout the United States and many ecosystems would not exist in the absence of fire. Fire is biologically necessary to maintain healthy ecosystems. Varying fire timing, frequency, and intensity produces different resource responses that can return the habitat to its historical state. Central Florida historically experienced a flood, drought, and fire cycle that maintained our unique habitats. To restore native habitats such as flatwoods, resource managers use prescribed burns to promote healthy ecosystems. The University of Central Florida's Landscape & Natural Resources uses prescribed burns to control excessive fuel loads, while making the campus's green spaces more ecologically healthy.



UCF Prescribed Burn update:

Our website is www.green.ucf.edu. We will provide our neighbors with the date(s) of anticipated burns, contact information, written prescriptions, and other important information.

As always, the UCF community appreciates your patience and support of restoring native Florida habitats through prescribed burning.



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Orlando, FL 32816-3268

Phone: (407) 823-3146
E-mail: nature@mail.ucf.edu
www.green.ucf.edu



LANDSCAPE & NATURAL RESOURCES Prescribed Burn Program



Office Hours:

Open Monday - Friday
8am-5pm

Natural Land Hours:

Open 7 days a week from sunrise to sunset

Why are we burning?

The University of Central Florida's Landscape & Natural Resources uses prescribed burns as a management technique to maintain healthy ecosystems and to prevent unplanned fires from endangering nearby areas. Prescribed burns remove the dead, decaying, or low-lying plants on the forest floor, reducing the impact of wildfires.

Who will be conducting the burn?

UCF staff, including the Prescribed Burn Coordinator, UCF Burn Boss, UCF Burn Crew and the Public Information Officer will be on the burn site monitoring the burn. Outside organizations, including the Florida Division of Forestry and Orange County fire/rescue, will also be involved in prescribed burns on campus. All personnel have been trained and are certified to conduct prescribed burns in the state of Florida.

Who is creating the burn plans?

The University of Central Florida's Prescribed Burn Coordinator writes all the prescriptions. A prescription is completed for each unit, and lists the specific conditions needed to meet the burn goals (including weather conditions, equipment needed, crew needed, site maps, and other pertinent information to have a safe prescribed burn).

What if I live near the burn area?

If you live near UCF and are concerned about the burn, please visit our website and e-mail the Prescribed Burn Coordinator. All questions will be answered as soon as possible, as we are interested in your input and want you to feel safe during our prescribed burns. Also, please keep in mind that it will be best to keep your children and pets inside while the burn is occurring, to ensure your family's health and safety.



What should I expect the day of the Burn?

Prescribed burns will only be conducted if the right conditions exist. Some signs of fire will include smoke rising from the natural area, smells of smoke, and crackling noises. For the safety of your home and property, the UCF Burn Crew and trained fire specialists will be on site to make sure that all precautions are being addressed. We ask that you not to come on to the burn site the day of the burn as it will put you, as well as our staff, at risk. If you have concerns during the burn, please call the Prescribed Burn Coordinator or visit our website to learn more.



Map of current Burn Units

