



Tierra y Montes Soil and Water
Conservation District

Office: 505-425-9088

Tierra Y Montes SWCD things to consider when prepping brush for chipping

- Contact the District **before you start cutting or thinning** to check on chipper availability and for technical advice on where to stack brush to ensure it is easily accessible for the chipper.
- Do create defensible space up to 100 feet from structures and 10 feet from the sides of access roads.
- Do stack brush into piles less than 5 feet high on uphill side of a maintained road or driveway.
- Do cut the brush into pieces less than 8 feet long.
- Do cut off large side branches to keep individual pieces less than 4 feet wide.
- Do pile brush with all cut ends facing toward the road.
- Do encourage and/or help your neighbors to get involved.
- Do not include roots, rocks, stumps, mud, loose leaves or pine needles, yard clippings or non-vegetative material (lumber, trash, metal, wire). These will severely damage the chipper and endanger the operators.
- Absolutely do not include Poison Oak, Blackberry Cuttings, or willow. These are dangerous to human and environmental health!
- Absolutely no dry or cured wood, older than two months, older and cured wood damages the chipper blades.
- Do contact the District with at least one week notice prior to the day you would like to chip the material. This will give our staff a chance to estimate the amount of time it will take to chip the material and schedule the chipping.

Brush Chipper Rental Program:

- Brush chipper rental is \$55/hour with a 2 hour minimum, if the rental exceeds 3 hours it will revert to a full day rental at \$200/day. The District may waive the minimum on a case by case basis.
- The chipper must be delivered and operated by a staff member from Tierra Y Montes SWCD.
- The chipping operation must occur during our workweek. Tuesday thru Friday between 8:00 and 4:00 to allow employees.
- Landowner will need to supply at least 2 laborers to help haul the brush to the chipper.

For any questions or inquiries about the chipper rental or assistance please call 505-425-9088.