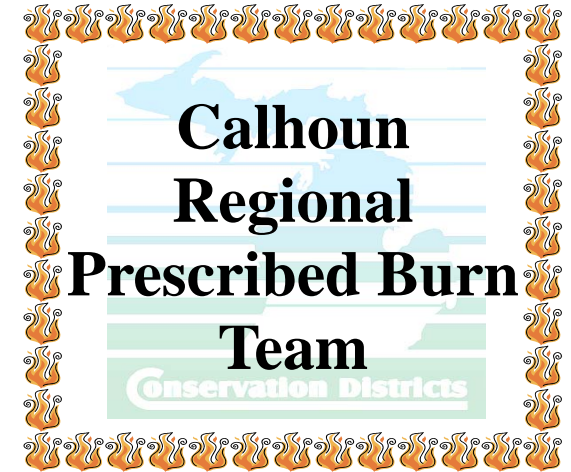


The Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team is a cooperative effort aimed at restoring and maintaining native grasslands. We recognize the need for improving, maintaining, and protecting high quality grassland habitat through the natural processes of fire. The Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team, with support from several federal, state, local, and private partners, has become a proficient network of habitat professionals. The Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team will provide both preparation and maintenance for warm season grasslands through the use of prescribed burning and other applicable tools.

Contact us at:

**Calhoun Conservation District
13464 Preston Drive
Marshall, MI 49068
(269) 781-4867, ext 5**

Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team
Calhoun Conservation District
13464 Preston Drive
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A subsidiary of the
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Why do I need a prescribed burn?

Fire is an often misunderstood management practice that most people have been trained to think of as destructive to property, habitat, and wildlife. However, it is a natural process that has been a part of the environment for thousands of years and can still be used under very controlled circumstances to produce desirable ecological goals. Fire is an important process in maintaining habitats for many species of plants and animals. Historically, lightning caused many fires. Native Americans also burned areas to clear them for agriculture, improve forage for game species, stimulate berry and acorn production, and to ease travel. Many plants and animals became dependent on periodic fires for their reproduction, growth, and survival. Prescribed burning is now used to return fire to these areas in a controlled fashion so that it may continue its vital role.

Who conducts the prescribed burn?

The Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team can conduct your burn. The Team is composed of trained fire professionals who have studied fire behavior and fire control techniques to ensure the safety of the crew, nearby residents, and private property.



What's a burn plan?

The key to a safe and effective burn is planning. The plan is written up in a document which includes expected fire behavior, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, air temperature, and dryness of the vegetation, along with a plan describing how the fire will be ignited and contained. By following a prescription, the Burn Team is able to accomplish the objective of the burn and provide for public safety.

What are other important issues?

When using fire it is important to plan for firebreaks. A firebreak is an area that will contain a fire within its boundaries. A plowed or disked strip, reaching down to mineral soil, is the most common method of establishing a firebreak. The Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team can create a firebreak for your prescribed burn.



Fire Break

Notification of your local fire department, obtaining permits, proper safety equipment, and burn equipment are also important components of a prescribed burn. The Calhoun Regional Prescribed Burn Team will obtain all necessary permits, often including your local fire department on-site during the burn. We will also have all required safety and burn equipment on-site.
