



## material safety data sheet :

### **FUEL BREAK™**

#### **DESCRIPTION :**

A strip or block of land on which the vegetation, debris and detritus have been reduced and/or modified to control or diminish the risk of the spread of fire crossing the strip or block of land. **PURPOSE**  
Control and reduce the risk of the spread of fire by treating, removing or modifying vegetation, debris and detritus.

#### **CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES**

This practice applies on all land where protection from wildfire is needed.

#### **ADVANTAGES AND CHARACTERISTICS :**

- Fuel breaks will be of sufficient width and length to meet the intended purposes. Fuel breaks shall be located to minimize risk to the resources and structures being protected. Thin the overstory stand sufficiently to reduce the tree canopy and the potential of a crown fire. Maintain vertical separation between fuel layers to remove "ladder" fuels, i.e., lowest layers of flammable vegetation do not connect to upper layers so that a fire cannot "step up" to higher canopies. Treat or remove slash sufficiently and at a time to minimize fuel loadings to acceptable fire risk levels and reduce incidence of harmful insects and disease. Comply with Forest Slash Treatment - 384.

#### **APPLICATION AND USE :**

A maintenance plan will be prepared which shall list various items that are to be inspected and follow-up work to be conducted. The more open the overstory is following fuel break construction, the more maintenance will likely be required, because the openings that are created encourage establishment and growth of understory vegetation, compared to more shaded areas. Fuel breaks should be inspected annually and all downed woody material =>2 inches in diameter must be disposed of or treated.

Repair erosion control measures as necessary to ensure proper function.

Access by vehicles or people will be controlled to prevent damage to the fuel break.

Maintain the functionality of the original design throughout the life of the practice.

Maintenance of the fuel break must be conducted at least every three to five years, to the following specifications:

- a) Treat (mow, spray, browse) or graze vegetative fuel breaks to avoid a build-up of excess litter and to control unwanted vegetation.
- b) Remove lower tree and/or shrub branches that have died and stumps that pose a fire hazard.
- c) Properly dispose of slash created by maintenance.
- d) Inspect all fuel breaks for woody materials such as dead limbs or blown down trees and remove them as necessary to maintain the desired level of fire spread risk.

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#### SAFETY AND HANDLING:

<b>HANDLING</b>	Handle with care. Store in a dry, cool and well ventilated environment.
<b>SAFETY</b>	IMMEDIATE ACTIONS.
<b>Eye Contact</b>	Avoid Eye contact. Otherwise, flush with plenty of water for a few minutes. Seek medical attention.
<b>Skin Contact</b>	Avoid Skin contact. Otherwise, wash contaminated area thoroughly with water. Seek medical attention.
<b>Inhalation</b>	Do not breathe gas/vapors. Otherwise, seek fresh air source at once. Seek medical attention. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment.
<b>If Swallowed</b>	Avoid ingestion. Otherwise, consume a considerable quantity of water. Do not induce vomiting. Seek medical attention.
<b>GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS</b>	Avoid spillage, splashing and mishandling. Precautionary measures for body protection are strongly recommended before use

**Read the Material Safety Data Sheet before using this product.**

*For detailed information on safety and health, please refer to Material Safety Data Sheet and/or Product Label.*

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