

Here are a few myths about grass burning:

Myth: *It's safe to burn grass as long as there is still some snow on the ground.*

Fact: Within hours of snow melting, dead grass becomes flammable especially if there have been drying winds. Grass fires burn hot and fast and spread quickly around, and even over, patches of snow.

Myth: *Spring grass burning controls weeds.*

Fact: The weeds deposited their seeds into the surrounding soil last fall. Burning creates an ideal bare soil bed for the seeds to germinate.

Myth: *Burning makes the new grass come in greener.*

Fact: The new grass will be the same color whether burning took place or not. It just appears greener due to the contrast against the bare, blackened ground.

Myth: *I don't see much wildlife around here so I can burn grass without threatening any animals.*

Fact: Burning destroys the habitat of species you don't normally see such as mice and voles as well as the nests and eggs of certain birds. If the fire gets out of control, larger animals can be caught by the flames and many species will lose habitat.