

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

FOREST MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SLASH DISPOSAL

(By authority conferred on the department of conservation by Act No. 35 of the Public Acts of 1955 and section 253 of Act No. 380 of the Public Acts of 1965, being SS320.41 to 320.48 and 16.353 of the Michigan Compiled Laws)

R 299.901 Definitions.

Rule 1. As used in these rules, unless the context requires a different meaning:

(a) "Slash" means branches, tops, chunks, cull logs, uprooted stumps, and broken or uprooted trees left on the ground after cutting of forest growth, wind, or fire. It does not include useable forest products or chips.

(b) "Public highway" means a road or highway under the jurisdiction of the state highway department or any county road commission.

History: 1979 AC.

R 299.902 Slash disposal in certain cases.

Rule 2. A cutting of forest growth resulting from the construction and maintenance of a public road, telephone, telegraph, or other communication line, power line, oil, and gas line, railroad that is a common carrier, or any other utility; or a cutting of forest growth on land bordering within 50 feet of a public highway shall be disposed of in accordance with these rules.

History: 1979 AC.

R 299.903 Utilities.

Rule 3. (1) A utility shall clear its right-of-way of slash for a distance of 50 feet from the edge of the cleared portion of a public highway right-of-way wherever its line crosses public roads.

(2) A utility shall clear its right-of-way of slash where its line is constructed or maintained within the limits of a public highway right-of-way.

(3) If a utility right-of-way is parallel to and adjoins a public highway right-of-way, the utility shall dispose of all slash or shall move same to the edge of the utility right-of-way furthest removed from highway right-of-way. However, in neither case shall slash remain within 50 feet of the cleared portion of the public highway. If slash is placed in windrows on the furthest removed edge of utility right-of-way, they shall not exceed 20 feet at base or 8 feet in height. An adequate break shall be provided at each 200 feet to allow for fire control access.

(4) A utility shall clear its right-of-way completely of slash in developed resort and suburban areas.

History: 1979 AC.

R 299.904 Slash near highways.

Rule 4. Slash on land bordering within 50 feet of a public highway, resulting from land clearing, forest product harvest, etc., shall be disposed of in a manner that such inflammable material shall not constitute a fire hazard as prescribed by the director of conservation or his authorized representatives.

History: 1979 AC.

R 299.905 National forests.

Rule 5. In national forests, the U.S. forest service shall prescribe the degree of slash removal and the removal of forest products from government-owned lands. In no case, however, shall rules for elimination of fire hazards provide less than the minimum requirements in these rules.

History: 1979 AC.

R 299.906 Placing of slash.

Rule 6. Except as provided in R 299.903, slash may be placed in windrows not to exceed 20 feet at base or 8 feet in height. Slash shall not exceed 3 feet in height if scattered within the right-of-way. An adequate break shall be provided at each 200 feet to allow for fire control access.

History: 1979 AC.

R 299.907 Fires.

Rule 7. Burning of forest growth, slash, and debris shall be done under a department of conservation permit only, and when forest and grass lands are not endangered by such burning.

History: 1979 AC.