

§9333. Disposal along railroads and utility lines

1. Stumpage owner. A stumpage owner, operator, landowner or agent who cuts or causes or permits to be cut any forest growth on lands that are within or border the right-of-way of a railroad, a pipeline or an electric power, telegraph, telephone or cable line may not place slash or allow it to remain on the ground within the right-of-way or within 25 feet of the nearer side of the right-of-way.

[PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (NEW).]

2. Construction. Slash accumulated by the construction and maintenance of a railroad, a highway, a pipeline or an electric power, telegraph, telephone or cable line may not be left on the ground but must be hauled away, burned or chipped. Slash may not be left or placed within the right-of-way or within 25 feet of the nearer side of the right-of-way. If a burning permit is denied or revoked under this chapter, the director may allow logs that are too large to be chipped to remain in the right-of-way until the director determines that their removal is economically feasible.

[PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (NEW).]

3. Utility line maintenance. Slash accumulated by the periodic maintenance of a pipeline or an electric power, telegraph, telephone or cable line may be disposed of in the following manner.

A. Slash with a diameter of 3 inches or less may be left in piles on the ground within the maintained portion of the right-of-way. A pile may not be higher than 18 inches from the ground or longer than 50 feet and must be separated from other piles by a minimum of 25 feet in every direction. A buffer strip with a minimum width of 10% of the total width of the maintained right-of-way must be kept totally free of slash with a diameter of 3 inches or less. [PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (NEW).]

B. Slash with a diameter of more than 3 inches must be removed, chipped or limbed and placed on the ground surface. The pieces must be separated and may not be piled one piece over another. Slash of this size may be left within the maintained buffer strips. [PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (NEW).]

C. If a utility line right-of-way is adjacent to a road, slash that is 3 inches or less in diameter must be removed, burned or chipped. Slash with a diameter of more than 3 inches may be left on the ground within the right-of-way and must be limbed and separated and may not be piled one piece over another. Usable timber products generated from the maintenance of a utility right-of-way may be piled within the right-of-way but must be removed within 30 days. [PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1979, c. 545, §3 (NEW). PL 1999, c. 332, §1 (RPR).

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