

## Use of Propane Torch to Establish a Fire Break



1. After last seasons grasses have decomposed and winter green up has occurred typically December through January; burn over the area to shock kill emerging grasses and forbs. Be careful that thatch and last seasons grasses that may be present do not spread your fire beyond your planned fire break. Have water available to extinguish any unwanted fire.
2. When "Spring Time" growth occurs burn again to remove all dead and growing grasses and forbs. Both a dry and warm winter and spring day generates best results.
3. Burn grasses when they are young and short. Letting the grass grow and become tall will result in longer time to complete and the use of more propane fuel.
4. Extinguish all smoking material and "mop-up" before leaving the site.
5. This technique for fire break construction is very effective where there is a "two-track" road where burning out the middle grass strip between the tire tracks can rapidly give you a six foot wide fire break for your planned burn.
6. This technque also works very well in rocky soils or areas where there are rock structures, and hand tools or tractor lines are difficult to establish.

- 7. It is fast, economical and requires significantly less physical effort in comparison to construction with hand tools, or if you do not have access to tractors. No soil disturbance occurs which minimizes the potential for erosion.**
- 8. Remember you are working with fire so all precautions and responsibilities apply.**