



SLASH / MULCH PROGRAM

A Wildfire Mitigation and Recycling Program

Operational Changes Notice



www.bfslash.org

Beginning July 1 of 2023, SAMCOM began to make changes to our operational strategy in an attempt to maintain the availability of the program for El Paso County residents. Changes were necessary based on the following: The Slash/Mulch Program is required to remove all remaining mulch from our site on Herring Road prior to the beginning of each new season. Prior to the Black Forest fire, the demand for our mulch from residents was consistent with the mulch we produced.

Since the Black Forest fire, demand for our mulch has decreased for a variety of reasons. Foremost among identified concerns was that our mulch has too many needles in it. Since the fire the number of loads of just pine needles has grown exponentially.

Since the fire we have been fortunate enough to have had several private enterprises who wanted the remaining mulch and were able to haul it away before our next season began. We currently no longer have a ready means of excess mulch disposal.

If we have to pay for the removal of the excess mulch we will most likely be forced to terminate operations of the Slash/Mulch program.

SAMCOM will continue to make adjustments to our operating parameters as deemed necessary in the attempt to maintain continuance of the program. We will make every effort to avoid changes in mid-season and to keep patrons informed of any necessary changes. **Beginning with the opening of the 2024 season the following apply:**

- **No loads of needles will be accepted.**
- **Drop off fee is set at \$10 per load regardless of load size**
- **Loyalty cards are available at \$50 per six loads**
- **Mulch loading remains \$5 per loader bucket**
- **Donations of canned goods will be accepted and transported to Care and Share**

All other considerations remain the same as prior years including hours of operation, size of slash, covered loads, no debris other than slash will be accepted.

As always, SAMCOM is operated and manned by an all volunteer staff.