

# Fort Ord Prescribed burns

Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network


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# Prescribed burning is a community concern ...but it shouldn't have to be.



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**The citizens living around Fort Ord have indicated that the burning is a problem.**

*Burns affect neighborhood quality.*

- Residents have complained of irritation from smoke inhalation and burning sensation in their eyes.

*Not all citizens are able to escape the smoke, even if they wanted to.*

- There is concern that the relocation program was not reinstated last year OR this year.

*Safety is not 100% guaranteed during burning.*

- In 2003, a burn went out of control and fires accidentally blazed through 1500 acres not specified for that burn plan.



Houses in Preston Park during the December 2008 burn.



**Human error has led to consequences during past burn seasons.**

*These errors damage the Army's credibility amongst Fort Ord community members.*

- Burns have gone out of control in 1999 and 2003.
- The 2003 fire burned so many acres that the smoke could be seen from space.
- Five months ago, in December 2008, a burn had to be cancelled because officials had not ordered enough fuel to conduct it properly.



Figure 5-3—Satellite Image of Smoke Dispersal on October 24

**Due to past mistakes and unhealthy consequences, the community does not accept burning at Ford Ord as a feasible cleanup option!**



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