

Lumber waste no longer accepted at village tree pile

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 20 March 2014 00:00 -

By Sheri Hink-Wagner

The Wauneta Breeze

Village Superintendent Bill Bischoff alerted village board members of a new rule on its way down from the Department of Environmental Quality regarding the village tree pile at the board's regular March meeting last week. The rule prohibits disposal of any sort of lumber at the village tree pile. Prior to the new regulation the village was able to accept non-treated lumber, such as 2x4s and plywood, as well as tree limbs at the village tree pile. However, under the new regulation all lumber is considered to be treated, Bischoff explained.

Previously the village has had a sign posted at the tree pile stating it was for tree cuttings only, but allowed non-treated lumber to be left as well. Bischoff said the village can no longer accept anything other than tree cuttings at the pile as the village will have to separate out any other lumber and take it to the dump in Imperial for disposal. Residents are asked to comply with the new rule and take their lumber waste to a proper disposal area, such as the dump in Imperial.

The former sign, which will be replaced soon, noted a \$100 fine for dumping lumber at the tree pile. Village employees are researching the village ordinances to make sure the fine is included. The village will have a new sign that will outline what is accepted and prohibited posted soon.

Hot embers also prohibited

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Bischoff noted the village has also seen illegal dumping of hot embers at the tree and grass piles. He said dumping of hot embers is strictly prohibited because they could start a fire. Hot embers, which were suspected to be the remains of items burned in trash cans, have been found at both the tree and grass piles. Bischoff noted he believes the proper disposal method for trash can remains is to water them down and place them in a dumpster for disposal.