

# Online Basic Prescribed Fire Training

By: John Weir

Natural Resource Ecology and Management Extension, with assistance of Dwayne Hunter, manager of DASNR Technology Services and Support, has just made available a free to the public online prescribed fire training. The course, Basic Prescribed Fire Training is the first of its kind for landowners and agency personnel to learn the fundamentals of prescribed burning online. Basic Prescribed Fire Training is set up to walk people through the process of conducting a prescribed burn, as well as the effects of fire on various plant communities. The course is designed for both people who have little to no knowledge about prescribed fire as well as people who have had years of experience conducting burns. Basic Prescribed Fire Training is not just designed for people in Oklahoma, but is applicable regionally and nationally. Everyone can learn something from participating in the course.

Basic Prescribed Fire Training is set up with eight sections or chapters, beginning with Introduction to Prescribed Fire. This section has a reading assignment and an 18-minute video clip introducing the student to prescribed burning. The student must then take and pass short multiple-choice quiz over the material. The following chapters are set up the same way, with reading material, videos or PowerPoint presentations to watch, then a quiz. Other section topics include fire prescriptions, fire effects, firebreaks, ignition techniques, smoke management, and best time of year to burn. One chapter, Fire Law, is currently set up for two different states, Oklahoma and Kansas. So if the student is from either of those states they can click on the fire law section

for their respective state, read the material and take the quiz to learn more about their state's fire laws. Nebraska and Texas will be added in the near future, as well as other states as they become available.

off a certificate of achievement. Basic Prescribed Fire Training is offered through eXtension's online campus at no cost to anyone who would like to take it. To access Basic Prescribed Fire Training, go to [campus.extension.org](http://campus.extension.org), then click on the "Energy & Environment" button, then under Sub-categories choose "Rangelands", then click on "Basic Prescribed Fire Training", then click "Continue". The student will have to create a new account, then the course can be started.

The Oklahoma Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is going to use Basic Prescribed Fire Training as an educational course for their employees. The NRCS National Employee Development Center is also going to begin using the online course as a prerequisite for their national prescribed burning courses. The course was created through funding from the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, and Oklahoma NRCS, along with other assistance provided by the Oklahoma Prescribed Burn Association.

Image By: Blayr Gourley

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Go to [campus.extension.org](http://campus.extension.org)
- Click on **Energy & Environment**
- In the sub-categories box, click on **Rangelands**
- Click on **Basic Prescribed Fire Training**
- Click **Continue**
- Create a new account & start

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[extension.org/prescribed\\_fire](http://extension.org/prescribed_fire)

The passing grade for each section is a 90% correct on each quiz. If you are worried about taking the quiz, don't be. The questions are multiple choice and the material is taken directly out of each section. The student can also check their answers to see which questions they got correct and which ones they need to work on. After all sections are completed the student can then print