

## Illegal Debris Fire Escapes Control and Burns ¼ Acre

*by Bend Weekly News Sources*

Homeowners are reminded by the Bend Fire Department that they are legally and financially responsible for any damage caused due to fire escaping their control. Matthew Sahlberg of Bend is fortunate that his out-of-control debris fire that burned about ¼ acre did not cause any property damage other than the destruction of natural vegetation.

According to Battalion Chief Bob Madden, on Monday July 17 at about 6:30 pm, ten Bend Fire personnel responded to a rapidly spreading brush fire at 21152 Robin Avenue in Whispering Pines Subdivision near Deschutes Junction. The fire, moving eastward, burned up to the edge of 78th Street and was contained by the first arriving engine companies.

Tenant Matthew Sahlberg was cited by a Deschutes County Sheriff's Deputy for reckless burning after he started an illegal debris fire that blazed out of control due to gusty winds.

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