



July 21, 2016 Storm Damage

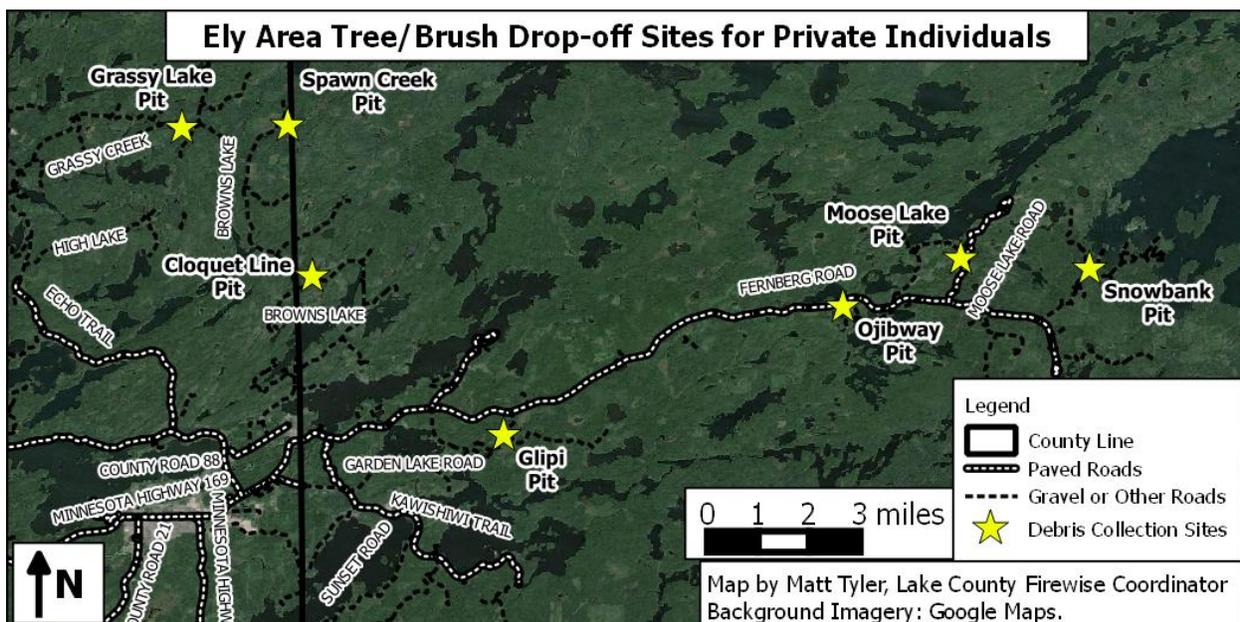
ELY AREA PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL BRUSH/TREE DISPOSAL SITE GUIDELINES

Property owners in the Ely area impacted by the July 21, 2016 storm in northeastern Minnesota find themselves with a lot of tree and brush debris and questions about what to do with it all. Lake County, St. Louis County, MN DNR, and the Forest Service have opened several gravel pits to take woody debris from private individuals free of charge. See map below.

Because Lake County is under quarantine due to the presence of Gypsy Moths, NO debris can be transported out of Lake County. To prevent spread of other pests, St. Louis County debris should stay within 50 miles of its origin.

Private Individual Debris Disposal Site Guidelines:

- Bring brush and small trees no more than 6 inches in diameter.
- Only clean vegetation is allowed because debris will be mulched or controlled burned. Please do not dump root wads or soil in the disposal area.
- Please add to the main pile only. Do not create additional piles.
- The Glipi Pit on Fernberg Road will be open Noon to 8:00 p.m. Mondays thru Saturdays. Please use Glipi pit traffic map (back). Mulch from this pit will be available for free.
- No lumber, building material, demolition, trash, or garbage allowed. Please contact Lake County Environmental Services (218-834-8327) or St. Louis County Environmental Services (800-450-9278) for information on the proper disposal of all other items.
- Report illegal dumping to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (218-834-8385) or St. Louis County Sheriff's Office (218-749-7134). **All sites are monitored for illegal dumping.**





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OTHER WAYS TO MANAGE WOODY DEBRIS

Disposal areas may fill up quickly, and hauling debris to a disposal site may not be practical for many homeowners. We encourage private landowners to consider managing the debris on their own land whenever possible by pile burning, chipping, milling for lumber, and burning as firewood.

Wood chippers may be rented or purchased. A pile or thick layer of chips may contribute to fire danger, so spread chips less than 3" deep and do not place chip piles near structures.

Skilled Local Contractors can be hired to clean up large areas of blow down beyond your ability. Consider having large trees milled by a portable sawmill contractor for rough lumber. In Lake County, if you or someone you know is disabled or low income and may have difficulty cleaning up their storm damage, please refer them to firewise@co.lake.mn.us for assistance.

People may glean **firewood** from federal land (Superior National Forest) with a firewood permit.

- Firewood permits may be obtained through any Superior National Forest office (including the Kawishiwi Ranger District in Ely), Mondays through Fridays 8 to 4:30. The permit is \$20 for two cords. Payment must be by credit card or check, not cash.

Burning brush in piles is a common way to deal with excess debris. Please see the attached brochure about how to safely and effectively pile brush to burn later when the brush has cured and when managing fire is safer, such as during the winter. Remember, burn permits from the MN DNR are required unless there are three or more inches of snow on the ground. Go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/burningpermits> for regulations and to obtain a burn permit online. Burning garbage and building materials is not allowed.

