

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 12, 2023

CharPalooza: Demonstration of Biochar Production Units

Members of the public are invited to a one-time Charpalooza event to learn about different ways to make biochar from forestry biomass, and how to use it to create environmental resilience. Biochar from wood waste is a climate smart and soil building amendment that increases water holding capacity, improves soil biology health, and sequesters carbon.

Wood waste is a big problem and a growing environmental concern. Seventy million tons of it are collected each year with just under a third of it getting recycled. As a result, our lands face an increasing threat of catastrophic forest fires, brush fires, air pollution, and degraded soils.

The USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, in collaboration with Air Burners, Inc, Tooele County, Utah State University, Wilson Biochar, and the United States Biochar Initiative will be operating the CharBoss, Ring of Fire kiln, and Big Box Biochar kiln to showcase different scales of low-emission biochar production for biomass management with carbon capture and sequestration for soils.

DATE: Wednesday April 19th

TIME: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

LOCATION: Tooele County Landfill - *Check-in at scales*
Tooele, UT 84074
[Google Maps pin](#)

CONTACTS:

Debbie Page-Dumroese - Debbie.Dumroese@usda.gov

Darren McAvoy - darren.mcavoy@usu.edu

Kelpie Wilson - kelpiew@gmail.com

John Webster - john@biochar-us.org



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More about the three important methodologies on display:

The Air Burners, Inc., “CharBoss” is an innovative mobile machine that creates biochar out of piles of wood waste with little to no processing requirements. The CharBoss system provides a new landscape management opportunity and offers a value-added product for vegetation management activity. USFS Page-Dumroese says, “Using mobile processing helps rural economies by providing a way to get people into the woods doing forest restoration, applying biochar to forest soils or using it to reclaim local abandoned mine sites.” This new mobile biochar technology provides forest managers with opportunities not only to remove unwanted biomass, but to benefit from the biochar created in the process.



Big Box Biochar firebox methodology was developed by Utah State University Extension Associate Professor of Forestry, Darren McAvoy. This low-tech methodology can process 10 to 50 tons of biomass a day resulting in about 15%-20% residual biochar (up to 87% stable organic carbon). This biochar can be returned to the local soils. Darren also heads the Utah Biomass Resources Group.



The Ring of Fire Kiln by Wilson Biochar is an easily-portable, modular kiln designed for use by hand crews. It can be deployed in hard to reach locations off-road in forests and on farms.



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Arizona event April 25th & 27th biochar-us.org/usfs-arizona-biochar-demo-day-2023

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ABOUT:

US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station & Air Burners, Inc.

The Rocky Mountain Research Station works at the forefront of science to improve the health and use of our Nation's forests and grasslands. The U.S. Forest Service and Air Burners are working together, through a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), to research, develop, and test the utility and marketability of Air Burners CharBoss.

CONTACT: Debbie Page-Dumroese E. Debbie.Dumroese@usda.gov

Utah State University Forestry Extension & Utah Biomass Resources Group

Utah State Forestry Extension delivers unbiased, research-based information to forest landowners, and managers in Utah; including the Utah Forest News, Utah Forest Facts publications, information on biomass utilization, and the annual Restoring the West Conference. The mission of the Utah Biomass Resources Group (usu.edu/ubrg/) is to assist in building a sustainable biomass utilization industry in Utah. Increased wildfire activity across the western U.S. has accelerated the pace, scale, and need for hazardous fuels reduction.

CONTACT: Darren McAvoy E: darren.mcavoy@usu.edu

Wilson Biochar Associates

Creators of the Ring of Fire Kiln, Wilson Biochar Associates specializes in biochar technology, market development, education and outreach. Wilson Biochar works directly with forest managers, the wood products industry, and farmers to develop systems for making biochar from waste biomass. Kelpie Wilson is a founding board member of the US Biochar Initiative.

CONTACT Kelpie Wilson E: kelpiew@gmail.com

US Biochar Initiative (USBI)

The US Biochar Initiative promotes the safe, stable, and sustainable production and use of biochar through research, policy, technology, and implementation. Join our network and the growing biochar industry to share findings and best practices that improve soil health and productivity, while removing carbon from the atmosphere.

CONTACT: John Webster E: john@biochar-us.org P: 801-870-2465



Arizona event April 25th & 27th

<https://biochar-us.org/usfs-arizona-biochar-demo-day-2023>

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