

The Associated Students of The University of Montana Date of Request: _____

STIP Request Form

Group Name: UM Student Association Fire Ecology and Management
 Person(s) Preparing the Request: Wesley Vassar
 Contact Phone Number: 406-351-1434 E-mail: wesley.vassar@umontana.edu
 ASUM Index Code: MST-556
 Item Being Requested: 3 Drip torches

Please attach a cover letter explaining how the item(s) will be used, how it will benefit your group and/or the University, and any other details that may help ASUM when considering your request.

	Item Description	Vendor	Price
Quote #1	Axemen - Red aluminum drip torch, - Heavy duty, light weight + construction - Check valve to - flash back - Meets DOT and USFS regulations - Meets current OSHA regulations *Local	Axemen Missoula	\$186.74
Quote #2	Forestry Suppliers OSHA-compliant Sure-Seal Double Bottom Drip torch - Heavy duty 15-gauge aluminum canister with double bottom for extra longevity. - Free shipping - Meets DOT approval.	Forestry - Suppliers.com	\$451.75
Quote #3	Drip Torch 1.25 gallon, The Supply cache - Double bottom - Flash back check valve - oil proof seals - heavy duty 15-gauge \$29.95 shipping	Supply cache.com	\$159.95

Other Sources of Funding: ASUM Spring Budgetting Local property work

Total Amount Being Requested: \$ 560.22 Total Cost of the Item/Project: \$ 560.22

Group Member Signature: Wesley Vassar Date: 11/19/2018

For ASUM Use:

Board on Budget And Finance:

Total Amount Approved: 560.00 Date: 12/6/18

X: Alex Schaffer Print Name: ALEXANDRIA SCHAFER

ASUM Senate:

Total Amount Approved: _____ Date: _____

X: _____ Print Name: _____

STIP Request

UM Student Association for Fire Ecology and Management

The University of Montana Student Association for Fire Ecology and Management (UMSAFEM) has been an active chapter of the larger network of SAFEM (Student Association for Fire Ecology and Management) for nearly 10 years. During this time the Fire Center that is based out of University of Montana has loaned tools and equipment to UMSAFEM. Over the years UMSAFEM has been slowly gathering more tools and equipment to become more self-sufficient and if larger events arise there will be enough equipment for every participant.

UMSAFEM has been steadily growing and with growth there is a greater need for more equipment. UMSAFEM is asking for three drip torches. A drip torch is a forest management tool used to light large piles of small cut trees or logging slash. The fuel mixture inside is combined diesel fuel and gasoline which is fed through a spout to a wick. The wick is used to hold the fire while the user tilts the torch towards the flammable material. Drip torches are considerably safer than any other method of lighting piles or other forest debris because of the safety features present in the drip torch, such as the one-way valve to prevent fire from entering the drip torch. The user can reach farther with the drip torch, which means a safer lighting distance and full control is given to the user over amount of fuel dispensed.

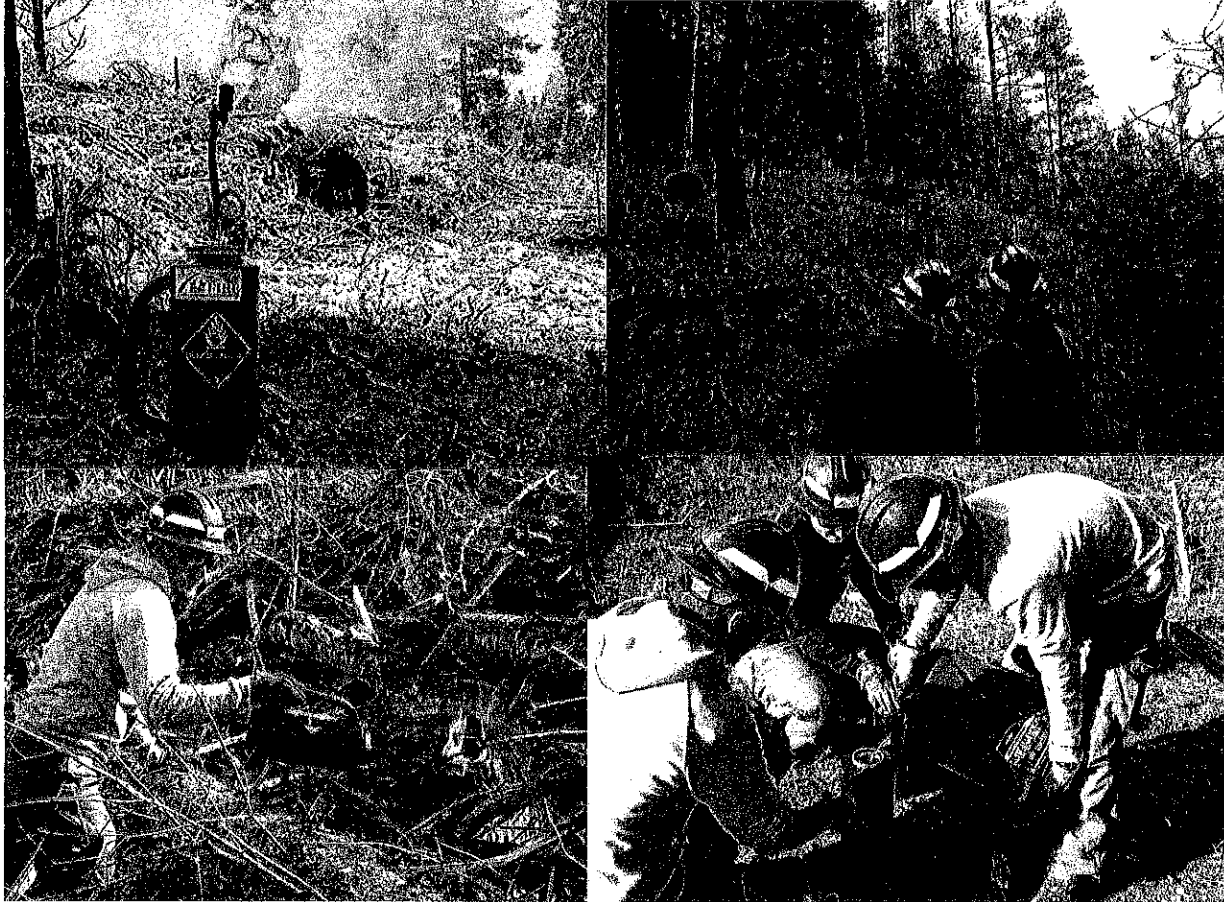
Recently a shed that was previously utilized by UMSAFEM has been moved back to the school's property and resides in the facilities services section at the University of Montana. A tall chain-link fence surrounds the club's shed and the shed is also locked. UMSAFEM also shares this shed with the Fire Center which houses a large portion of their field equipment in the same shed. Security is important for these drip torches because they will easily last a lifetime. Nearly every part attached to the drip torch can be repaired or a new wick can be installed for considerably less than a new drip torch.

On the request form there is three vendors and out of these three Axemen of Missoula is preferred. While the two other options are cheaper, they aren't local companies like Axemen. UMSAFEM believes that promoting local businesses is truly the way to go and Axemen supports many other local firefighting groups.

These drip torches also function as an educational tool, which UMSAFEM's mission is to provide career training and experience for students. Students can learn how to use drip torches in an educational setting which emphasizes safety. UMSAFEM's core group has many experienced individuals which have mastered the usage of these tools and can provide insight and supervision for student who haven't used these tools before. UMSAFEM's primary areas of forest improvement are Lubrecht Experimental Forest and Bandy Ranch. UMSAFEM burns many piles on these properties and occasionally conducts broadcast burns at Lubrecht Experimental Forest.

Thank you for your consideration,

University of Montana Student Association for Fire Ecology and Management



Upper left: Election day 2018, a drip torch on a log with a student in the background lighting a landing pile. Upper Right: Two students discuss management options on a private property near Clinton before thinning. Lower Left: A student lights a pile as part of a forest stand improvement. Lower Right: Three students fill drip torches with drip torch mix before starting ignitions.