

How we lay mushroom straw

Cinder & Root · sample guide · checked 15 August 2026

Read this first

This is a sample guide on a demonstration website. It describes how an organization like ours works; it is not health, legal or cleanup advice. What a soil result means for a family is for your county health department and your state's environmental agency.

WHAT IT IS

Wheat straw that has been grown through with oyster mushroom. Laid on burned ground, it holds ash in place and gives the fungi a start on the ground below.

WHAT WE WEAR

- A P100 respirator
- Tyvek coveralls and nitrile gloves
- Boots we leave on site

SAMPLE

On site

- Take the first test before anything is laid.
- Wet the ground lightly so ash does not lift.
- Lay the straw four to six inches deep, overlapping the edges.
- On a slope, pin straw wattles across it first.
- Water it through the first two weeks unless it rains.

WHAT WE DO NOT DO

- We do not dig ash into the soil.
- We do not work on a site without the owner's written permission.

SAMPLE

After the straw

Once the fungi are through, we sow sunflowers, mustards or native grasses, depending on the site. Plants that take up metals are cut, bagged and taken away, never composted.

THE SECOND TEST

Same depth, same lab, same number of cores as the first. The site page on our website shows both.

SAMPLE