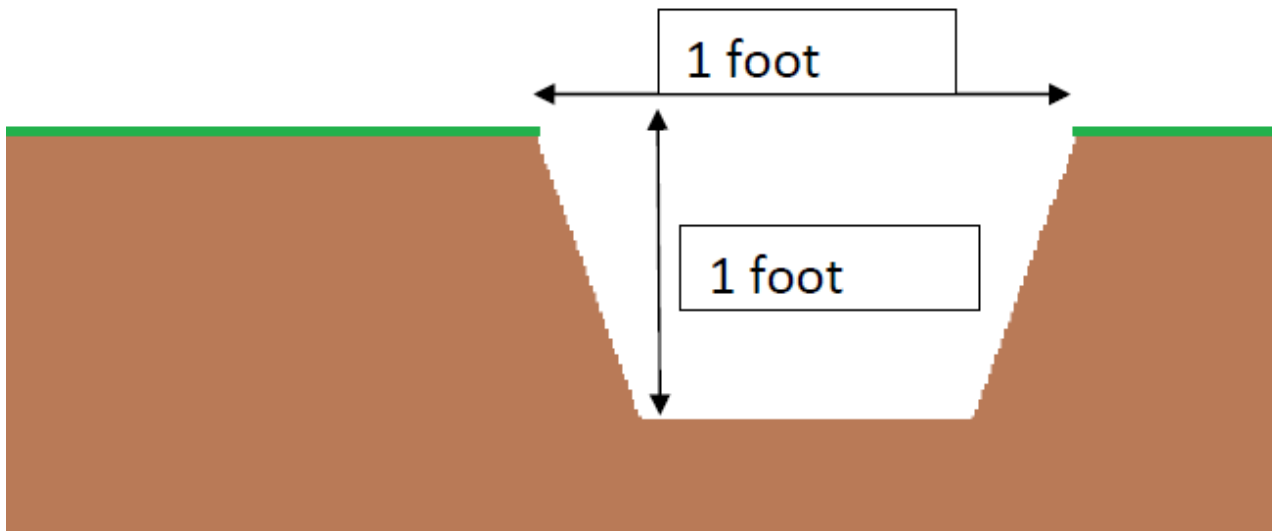




Dakota Fire Pit

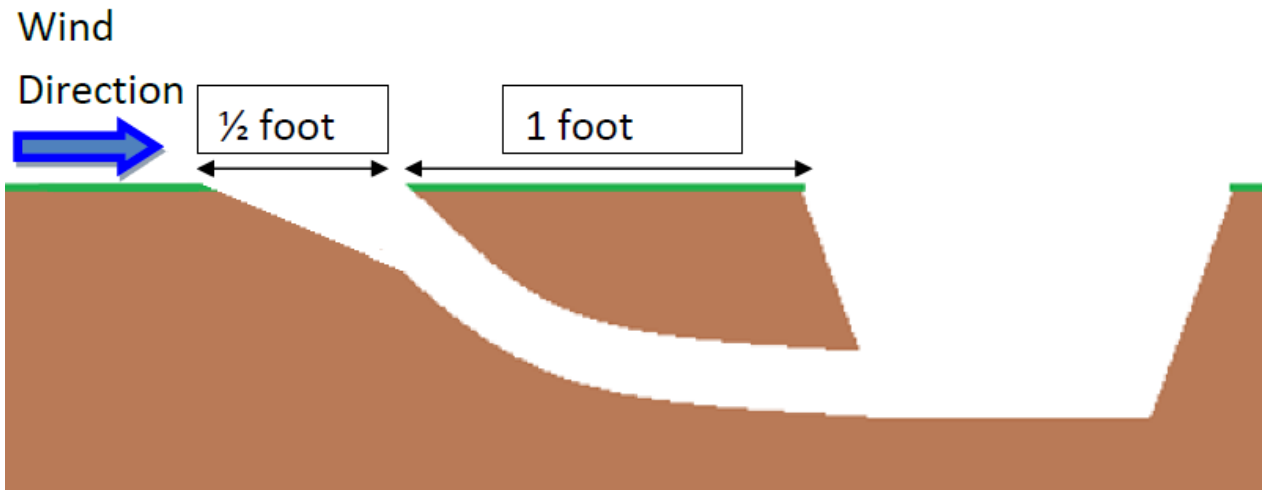
The Dakota Fire Pit is great fire for when we want a controlled cooking fire. It uses less wood and tends to produce less smoke than other fires. The pit makes a chimney effect, drawing air to the bottom of our fire using the fire's updraft. This method is suited to areas with clay or mineral soil that sticks together well. Sandy soil is difficult to use and boggy or peaty soil can never be used because we are guaranteed to set the ground on fire using this method.

Step 1: Dig a round hole with steep sides that is 1 foot wide and about 1 foot deep. Clear all roots from the fire pit as these can burn underground.

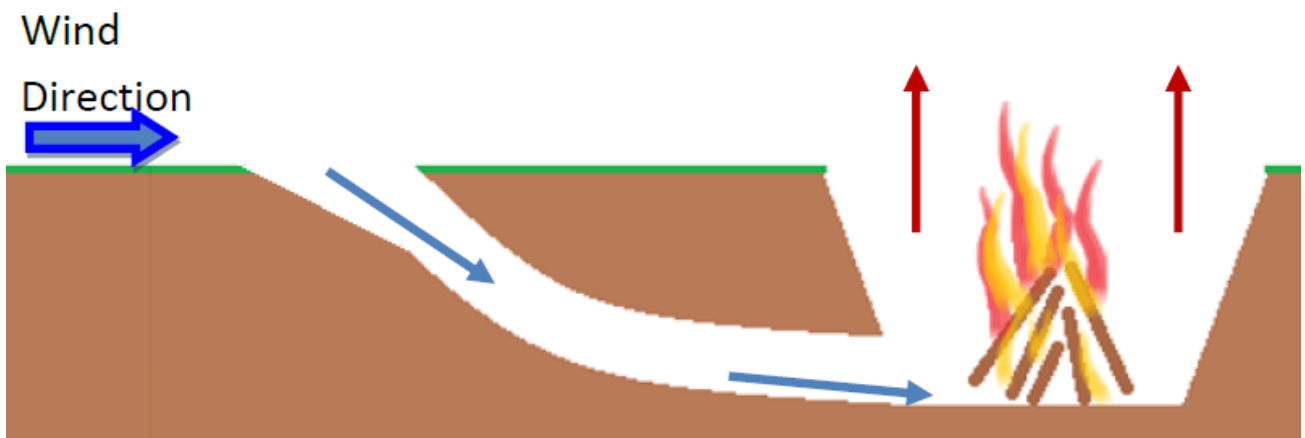




Step 2: Dig an air hole that goes to the **bottom** of your fire pit. The mouth of the air hole must point into the wind, so that the wind blows down into the air hole. The air hole should come about a foot from your pit and be about $\frac{1}{2}$ a foot wide at the mouth.



Step 3. Light a tepee fire in the fire pit. The warm air rises out of the pit and this sucks new air through the air hole to the base of the fire where we want it. Making the air hole point toward the wind just helps push more air down the air hole. Again this system is very similar to how a chimney in a house works. We can cover the air hole slightly to reduce the strength of the fire.





In sandier soils we can use a rock (A) or branches (B) to support our air hole tunnel. Remember, never use this method in peaty ground.

