

Report of Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

The Fremont Forest Fire Warden, Fremont Fire Rescue Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests & Lands, work collaboratively to reduce the risk and frequency of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, please contact the Fremont Fire Department to determine if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. You can reach the Fire Department through Raymond Dispatch at 895 4222 or by calling the station (unmanned) during office hours at 895 9634. The Chief has office hours Monday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, and there is a duty officer on weekends.

Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services also prohibits the open burning of household waste. Citizens are encouraged to contact DES at 603 271 1370 or www.des.state.nh.us for more information. Safe open burning requires diligence and responsibility. Help us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at 603 271 2214, or online at www.nhdfl.org.

This past fire season started in late March with the first reported fire on March 26, 2013. April, which is the traditional start to our spring fire season, started very dry with little measurable precipitation until the middle of the month. Approximately 70% of our reportable fires occurred during the months' of April and May. The largest fire was 51 acres on April 29th. 81% of our fires occurred on class 3 or 4 fire danger days. By mid May, extensive rains began which provided us with a very wet summer overall. We had a longer fall fire season due to drier than normal conditions following leaf fall. Fortunately most of these fires were small and quickly extinguished. As has been the case over the last few years, state budget constraints have limited the staffing of our statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers to Class III or higher fire danger days. Despite the reduction in the number of days staffed, our fire lookouts are credited with keeping most fires small and saving several structures due to their quick and accurate spotting capabilities. The towers fire spotting was supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger was especially high. Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Several of the fires during the 2013 season threatened structures, a constant reminder that forest fires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildland fire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org.

Please help Smokey Bear, the Fremont Fire Department, and the State's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRE!



2013 FIRE STATISTICS

All fires reported as of November 2013,
figures do not include fires under the jurisdiction of the White Mountain National Forest:

COUNTY STATISTICS		
County	Acres	# of Fires
Belknap	14.5	11
Carroll	56.5	7
Cheshire	11	19
Coos	8.5	29
Grafton	22.3	41
Hillsborough	9.5	25
Merrimack	11.2	24
Rockingham	4.3	4
Strafford	1	11
Sullivan	5.2	11

CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED

			Total Fires	Total Acres
Arson	1	2013	182	144
Debris	69	2012	318	206
Campfire	12	2011	125	42
Children	1	2010	360	145
Smoking	10	2009	334	173
Railroad	0			
Equipment	4			
Lightning	0			
Misc.*	85 (*Misc.: power lines, fireworks, electric fences, etc.)			



Getting ready for Fremont's first Automobile Parade at the Fremont Railroad Depot on Main Street (just west of the current Fremont Public Library) during Fremont's 150th Anniversary Celebration on June 22, 1914.

Matthew Thomas Collection