

## **Report of the Fremont 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 Forest Fire Warden or Fremont Fire Rescue Department to determine if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. 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 NH Department of Environmental Services also prohibits the open burning of household waste. Citizens are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 603-271-1370 or [www.des.state.nh.us](http://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.nhdfi.org](http://www.nhdfi.org).

Due to a record warm winter and little snow, our first fire occurred on February 4<sup>th</sup> with several more early fires to follow. Normally a large percentage of the warm windy days with low humidity occur when the ground is saturated from a long snow covered winter. By the time the surface fuels and ground dry out enough to burn, we only have a few weeks until "green up". This year however we had an extended period of these favorable spring fire conditions. Our largest fire in the state was 86 acres. The average size fire was .6 acres. Extensive summer rains kept total acreage burned to near normal levels

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. Several of the fires during the 2012 season threatened structures, a constant reminder that forest fires burn more than just trees. Please help Smokey Bear, the Fremont Fire Rescue Department, and the State's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

To obtain a permit to burn outdoors, contact the Fremont Fire Rescue Department during office hours at 603 895 9634 (Monday and Thursday evenings 5:00 to 7:00 pm) and all other times, contact Raymond Dispatch at 895 4222.

**ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRE!**

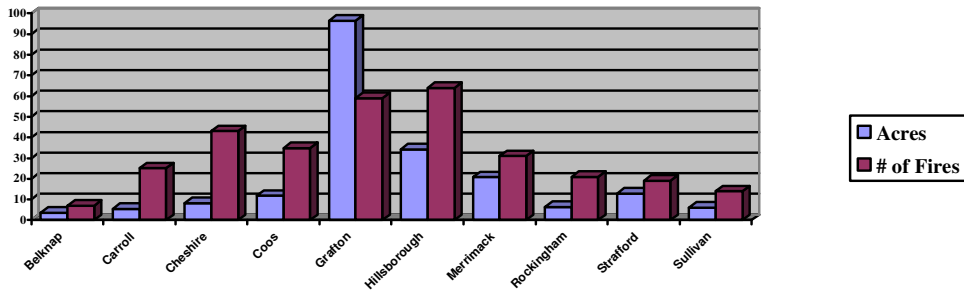


## 2012 Fire Statistics

All fires reported as of October 2012

Figures do not include fires under the jurisdiction of the White Mountain National Forest.

COUNTY STATISTICS		
County	Acres	# of Fires
Belknap	3.6	7
Carroll	5.5	25
Cheshire	8.3	43
Coos	11.8	35
Grafton	96.5	59
Hillsborough	34.2	64
Merrimack	20.8	31
Rockingham	6.4	21
Strafford	12.9	19
Sullivan	6	14



## CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED

Arson	14
Debris	105
Campfire	14
Children	15
Smoking	17
Railroad	0
Equipment	6
Lightning	7
Miscellaneous *	140

(\*Misc includes: power lines, fireworks, electric fences, etc.)

Total	Fires	Total Acres
2012	318	206
2011	125	42
2010	360	145
2009	334	173
2008	455	175
2007	437	212