

HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES

With temperatures rising and conditions becoming drier, there is an increase in wildfire risk during this time of year. The 2015 wildfire season burned over 10 million acres making it the worst fire season on record. 90 percent of the 2015 wildfires were caused by humans. During the summer months, we see an increase in people participating in outdoor recreational and work activities. Some of these activities increase the risk of human caused fires. There are several steps you can take to prevent this while still enjoying many of Idaho's outdoor activities. In addition to the information provided below, visit <http://www.idahofireinfo.com/>

Properly Use Outdoor Equipment and Tools

Avoid using sparking power tools and equipment when it is windy.

The ground should be bare in at least a 10 ft. radius when using these types of tools.

Keep a shovel and a fire extinguisher ready to use within 10 ft. during tool usage. One additional person should be watching for fire.

Lawn mowers are designed to mow lawns, not weeds or dry grass. Hidden rocks can be struck by the blade creating sparks.



Check Your Vehicle and Trailer Chains

Secure all trailer and towing chains by using appropriate safety pins and hitch ball to prevent dragging.

Properly maintain your vehicle to make sure your vehicle does not have dragging parts.

Do not drive on dry grass or brush. Hot exhaust pipes and mufflers can start fires.

Properly maintain brakes and tires. Thin brake pads and driving on exposed wheel rims can cause sparks.



Open Campfire Safety

Dig fire pit away from overhanging branches.

Clear a 10 ft. area down to bare soil around the pit.

Circle pit with rocks and stack wood upwind and away from pit.

When finished, drown the fire, and do not leave until it is dead out.

Only start campfires in areas where it is permitted.



TO REPORT WILDFIRES, CALL 911

