

Report of Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

Your local Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands cooperate and coordinate to reduce the risk of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing ALL outside burning. Fire permits are mandatory for all outside burning unless the ground where the burning is to be done (and surrounding areas) is completely covered with snow. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines up to \$2000 and/or a year in jail plus suppression cost.

A new law effective January 1, 2003 prohibits residential trash burning (RSA 125-N). Contact New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services at (800) 498-6868 or www.des.state.nh.us for more information.

Help us to protect you and our forest resources. Most New Hampshire wildfires are human caused. Homeowners can help protect their homes by maintaining adequate green space around the house and make sure that the house number is correct and visible. Contact your fire department or the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands at www.nhdfi.org or 271-2217 for wildland fire safety information.

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRES

2002 FIRE STATISTICS

(All fire reported thru November 10, 2002)

TOTALS BY COUNTY

COUNTY STATISTICS		
County	Acres	# of Fires
Belknap	13.5	52
Carroll	10.5	80
Cheshire	17	39
Coos	2.5	3
Grafton	21	53
Hillsborough	54.5	108
Merrimack	13.5	94
Rockingham	25.5	60
Strafford	23	31
Sullivan	6	20

CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED

	Total Fires	Total Acres
Arson/Suspicious 43	2002 540	187
Campfire 31	2001 942	428
Children 32	2000 516	149
Smoking 32		
Rekindle of Permit 3		
Illegal 7		
Lightning 36		
Misc* 356		