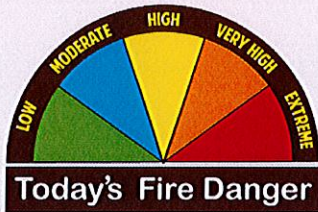


Fall—PA Secondary Fire Weather Season



Wildfires in Pennsylvania

It's officially fall, a time for falling leaves, pumpkin picking, and hot apple cider. While the peak wildfires season occurs during the spring, the secondary fire season occurs during the fall across Pennsylvania. This year, a dry late summer coupled with drying vegetation, dying leaves, and periods of low humidity, can help increase the risk for fire spread, leaving only an ignition source. According to DCNR, 98% of Pennsylvania wildfires are caused humans, so it is up to you to practice fire safety this fall.

Ignition Sources

Since humans are responsible for starting most Pennsylvania wildfires, what are some of the reasons? The most common is burning trash or debris. A seemingly controlled backyard burn can quickly ignite grass or leaves, and a shift in wind can spread fire to nearby trees and forests. Campfires, bonfires, discarded cigarette butts, and fireworks can also be dangerous ignition sources. Parking a hot car on grass can ignite unusually dry fuels. Think twice before taking any of these actions and know when to either safely use fire outdoors, or hold off until conditions are less favorable for fire spread.

Preventative Actions

So how can you prevent fires from spreading and how can you protect your property?

- Avoid burning outdoors in dry, hot, and windy conditions
- If you do burn outdoors, always have a bucket of water or hose nearby to help prevent fire spread
- Clear leaves from your property, including the roof and gutters
- Clear out any dead vegetation from at least 10 feet around your home
- Keep flammable materials at least 30 feet from your home
- Replace mulch with rock, gravel or stone, especially nearest to your home
- If you live near a wooded area, maintain a large clearance between your home and the tree line

Get more information here:

Visit the DCNR Wildfire Website:

<http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Wildfire/Pages/default.aspx>

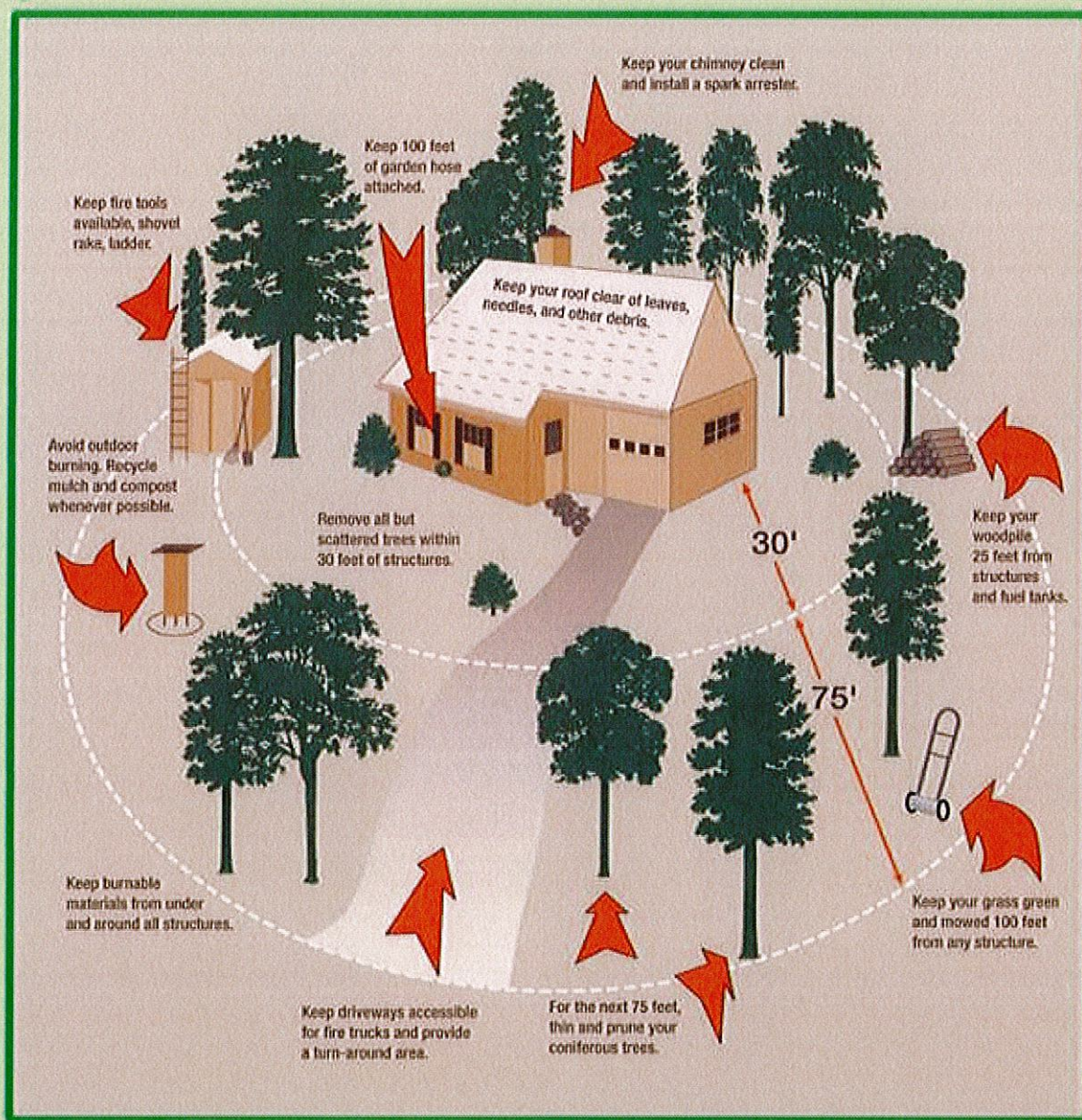
Check out the current fire danger here:

<https://www.wfas.net/index.php/fire-danger-rating-fire-potential--danger-32>

Visit the Smokey Bear website for more information for adults and kids:

<https://smokeybear.com/en>

You Can Prepare!



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