



Washington State Patrol

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

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For Immediate Release

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Government and Media Relations

State Fire Marshal's Office
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Wildfire Awareness

Olympia- Summer is just around the corner, and the weather is expected to get warmer and dryer. As we get ready for sun and fun we need to prevent and prepare for wildfires.

In 2023, Washington had one of our most challenging wildfire seasons to date with a total of 1,880 wildfires- the second highest recorded reported by Commissioner Franz, DNR Leaders. According to National Fire Protection Association, wildfires cost the US \$18 billion in property losses in 2022.

Wildfire Preparedness Day is May 4th which is a great time to take the following actions:

Reduce risk:

- Clear fuel sources such as dead vegetation away from your home and other structures.
- Engage in a local community cleanup day.
- Proper fire safety on a daily basis to prevent accidental fires.
- Fire resistant construction.
- Remain informed of emergency alerts.

Be prepared:

- Create an emergency kit including food, important documents, battery powered radio, first aid kit and any medicine you need.
- Have a communication plan for notifying neighbors of an emergency.
- Practice your family's escape plan paths out of the house, neighborhood and where to meet.
- Pack your vehicle with everything you need.
- Have someone assigned to get the pets so there is no miscommunications.
- Listen to emergency personnel and evacuate when you are told.

If you'd like more examples, [click here](#) to see NFPA information on wildfire preparedness. For more information, contact the State Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 596-3904.

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The State Fire Marshal's Office is a Bureau of the Washington State Patrol, providing fire and life safety services to the citizens of Washington State. These services include public education, licensing and certification of the fire sprinkler, fireworks, and cigarette industries, data collection and analysis, fire and life safety inspections for state facilities, plan review of school construction projects, all-risk mobilization of statewide fire service resources, hazardous materials training, and the training and certification of firefighters.

www.wsp.wa.gov/state-fire-marshals-office/