



Latah County Idaho
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MAY 2022
 NEWSLETTER

2022 CALENDAR

June 1st – CERT
 Curriculum Unit 5: Disaster Psychology at 6:30 pm in the Latah County Fairgrounds Classroom

June 29th –Quarterly Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Latah County Fairgrounds Classroom – Guest Speaker Fire Marshal Dan Ellinwood

July 20th –CERT
 Curriculum Unit 6: Fire Safety and Utility Controls at 6:30 pm in the Latah County Fairgrounds Classroom

August 3rd – CERT
 Curriculum Unit 7: Light Search and Rescue Operations at 6:30 pm in the Latah County Fairgrounds Classroom

September 7th – CERT
 Curriculum Unit 8: Terrorism and CERT at 6:30 pm at County Building (522 S. Adams) – Basement Conference Room

October 5th – CERT
 Curriculum Unit 9: Course Review, Final Exam and Disaster Simulation at 6:30 pm in the Latah County Fairgrounds Classroom

October 19th – Quarterly Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Latah County Fairgrounds Classroom

QUARTERLY MEETING: June 29th (Wednesday), 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Latah County Fairgrounds – Classroom. *Special Guest Speaker: Dan Ellinwood, Fire Marshal, Moscow Volunteer Fire Department. Topic: Using Fire Extinguishers – hands on practice!*

Wildfire Awareness Month and Don't Fry Day

May is National Wildfire Awareness month so it's a good time to look at what you are doing to prepare your family and home, what you would do if an evacuation were necessary, and how to ensure your safety after a wildfire. A wildfire is an unplanned fire that burns in a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or prairie. Wildfires are often caused by humans or lightning. They can cause flooding or create problems with transportation, gas, power, and communications. And remember, they can happen anytime and anywhere. As we transition from Spring into Summer, the risk of wildfires increases exponentially, especially in areas experiencing drought conditions.

Plan, prepare and practice before a wildfire occurs

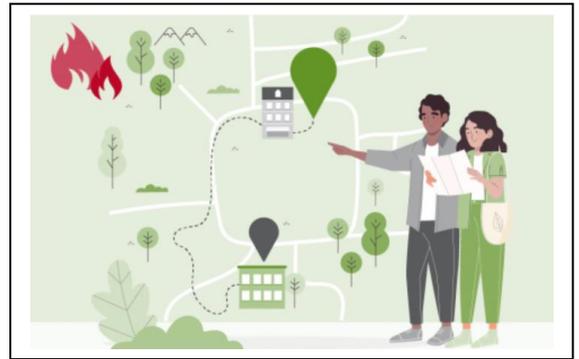
- ✓ Use fire-resistant materials to build, renovate, or make repairs on your home and other buildings. Create a fire-resistant zone that is free of leaves, debris, or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home. Trim branches that overhang the home, porch, and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches (in immediate zone 0-5 feet). Keep your landscaping in good condition. Please see the attached information

sheet from Firewise USA, ***“How to prepare Your Home for Wildfires”***, for more details.

- ✓ Sign up to receive emergency alerts and warnings. Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home including details for handling pets, large animals, and livestock.



- ✓ Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a predesignated meeting place. Plan to evacuate family, friends or neighbors who have disabilities. ALWAYS evacuate if you feel its unsafe to stay, don't wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened by a fire.
- ✓ Gather emergency supplies, including N95 respirator masks that filter out particles in the air you breathe. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication or medical devices. Don't forget the needs of pets. Back your vehicles into your garage or park them in an open space facing the direction of escape. Keep the gas tank in vehicles at least half full. Review insurance coverage.
- ✓ **PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE** with everyone in your home including how to evacuate animals and pets and how to operate trailers and other vehicles needed to transport them.
- ✓ If a wildfire is possible, charge all cellphones in case of power loss, know the local fire conditions, and be prepared to leave at a moment's notice. Go PROMPTLY when told to evacuate. Keep your car windows up and the air conditioning on to prevent embers and smoke from entering the vehicle. If trapped, call 911 and give your location, but be aware that emergency response could be delayed or impossible. Turn on lights to help people see and find you. Listen to the Emergency Alert System (EAS), NOAA Weather Radio or other local alerting systems.
- ✓ Make sure everyone is okay once you are out. Get immediate assistance if someone is injured or not feeling well. Don't return to your home until you are told by authorities that it is safe to return and whether water is safe to drink. Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers. Document property damage with photographs. Above all, stay safe.



May 27th – Don't Fry Day

While some exposure to sunlight can be enjoyable, too much can be dangerous. Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun can result in a painful sunburn. It can also lead to more serious health problems, including skin cancer, premature aging of the skin, cataracts and other eye damage, and immune suppression. Skin cancer is largely preventable!!

On Don't Fry Day (and Every Day)

Slip, Slop, Slap & Wrap!

A turtle has a built-in shirt.



A hippo's skin secretes oil that acts as a sunscreen.



The bumps over a camel's eyes act as a hat.



The black rings around a meerkat's eyes are sunglasses.



Slip on a shirt, Slop on sunscreen, Slap on a hat, Wrap on sunglasses, and seek shade between 10 and 4.







See the attached EPA document, **"Action Steps for Sun Protection"** for further information!