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Professionally and Compassionately Helping People

Brush Fire Season

Kent, Wash. - June 8, 2016- Although we have not hit the hottest and driest months of the year, we are already beginning to see signs of what is to come with brush fires springing up on both sides of the Cascades.

What causes brush fires? Brush fires can be started by any heat source. Along roadways, many of the fires are caused by discarded burning materials such as cigarettes. Even cigarettes that the user thinks have been extinguished can contain enough heat to start a fire in dry grass or brush. Low hanging chains from large trucks, boats, and camping trailers can cause sparks that lead to fires. Trains and rail grinding can also start fires.

While most brush fires near roadways are more of a nuisance than a life-safety hazard, they do cause a visual distraction, can lead to limited visibility due to the smoke, and create an ugly burned out area.

Brush fires away from roadways can be the result of fireworks, discarded cigarettes, camp fires, land clearing fires, malicious mischief, and other "controlled" fires. These fires can be especially dangerous because of nearby structures, including homes.

Use fire carefully and never leave any outdoor fire unattended. In addition, supervise children near any fire and keep them safe by creating a "kid free" zone around campfires.

If you see someone discarding burning material or using fire in an unsafe manner, call 9-1-1 immediately.

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