

WILDFIRE PREVENTION TIPS

Wildfires are any unplanned fires that burn in forest and other wildlands, such as shrub and grass communities. Nearly 9 out of 10 wildfires nationwide are caused by humans and could have been prevented.

Due to Hurricane Michael, the threat of wildfires in our area is considered 10 times higher than normal. Hurricane Michael downed 72 million tons of trees between the Gulf Coast and the Georgia border, and most of them have yet to be cleared. This huge amount of fuel provided by downed trees combined with this year being a particularly dry year for the State of Florida, present catastrophic conditions in the event of wildfires. Along with providing fuel for wildfires, down trees have caused problems for firefighters to gain access to recent wildfires that have occurred in Gadsden County and other areas of the Panhandle.

Although **outside burning is not permitted within the city limits of Quincy**, outside burning is allowed in the County.

Below are a few tips on how to prevent wildfires:



Follow local ordinances when burning yard waste. Avoid backyard burning in windy conditions. Keep a shovel, water, and fire retardant nearby to keep the fire in check.



Never leave a fire unattended. Completely extinguish the fire by dousing it with water and stirring the ashes until cold.



Contact 911, your local fire department, or the forest service if you notice an unattended or out of control fire.



If someone smokes, grind out cigarettes, cigars, or pipe tobacco in the dirt. Do not throw smoking materials into brush or leaves or from moving vehicles.



When disposing of charcoal briquettes and ashes outside, drown the charcoal and ashes with water, stir them and soak again. Be sure they are out cold.



If you live where your home meets wildlands, create a 30-foot zone of fire-resistant space around your home.

Emergency Contact Numbers:

All Emergencies.....911
Quincy Fire Department.....850-875-7315
State of Florida Division of Forestry.....850-681-5950
(County burn permits can be obtained from this number)

Quincy Fire Department

**20 N. Stewart Street
Quincy, Florida 32351
850-875-7315**

Chief Curtis E. Bridges