



## Campfire Safety Checklist

1. Check to see if campfires are permitted in the area.
2. Build fires away from overhanging branches, steep slopes, rotting stumps or logs, dry grass and leaves.
3. Keep plenty of water handy and have a shovel available.
4. If not using an established fire ring, fireplace or stove, scrape away litter, duff and any other burnable material within 10 feet of the fire.
5. Keep fires small. Many people believe that big, roaring fires are best. Small fires with good coal beds are actually better for cooking and warming.
6. Never leave a campfire unattended. Even a small breeze can cause a fire to spread out of control.
7. Make sure your campfire is completely out before leaving the area. Drown it with water, stir, and check the fire for any remaining embers. Feel all the material with your bare hands.
8. Do not bury hot coals. They can smolder undetected and cause a fire later.

## Be familiar with mountain lion signs and habitat

Almost all of Oregon is populated by mountain lions; a surprising fact to many residents and visitors. Mountain lions have made a strong comeback after being reduced to very low populations in the early 1960s. These large, powerful predators have lived here since prehistoric times.

The potential for human/mountain lion interactions has increased in recent years. However, more people are injured or killed by deer, bees, dogs and spiders than by mountain lions. Since every attack is different, patterns of attack behavior are difficult to identify. People should familiarize themselves with mountain lion signs and habitat. If you are concerned about safety, the following suggestions can help prevent an attack:

**Do Not Hike Alone:** Go in groups and supervise children.

**Do Not Approach a Mountain Lion:** Most mountain lions will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.

**Do Not Run From a Mountain Lion:** Running may stimulate the in-

stinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact. If you have small children with you, pick them up so they don't panic and run. Try to pick them up without bending over or turning away from the mountain lion.

**Do All You Can to Appear Larger:** Raise your arms, open your jacket, throw stones or whatever you can without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak in a firm, loud voice.

**Fight Back if Attacked:** Because a lion tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the attacking animal. Use rocks, sticks, jackets, garden tools, camping gear and your hands to fend off the attack.

**Learn to identify Mountain Lion Tracks and Signs:**

Many mountain lion sightings are often a case of mistaken identity. Large dog paw prints are frequently mistaken for mountain lion tracks. The major difference between dog tracks and mountain lion tracks is that dog tracks have claw marks. Claw

marks are usually not visible because mountain lions can retract their claws. They have four toes and three distinct lobes at the base of the heel pad, forming an "M" shape. An average sized mountain lion makes a track about 3-1/2 inches wide and 3 inches long.

Mountain lions are solitary animals. Adult males almost always travel alone. If tracks indicate two or more mountain lions traveling together, it's likely a female with kittens.

Mountain lion feces are often covered by soil, leaves or other debris that is scraped from an area up to 3 feet in diameter. They create similar scrapes (often urine-scented) to mark their territory. They also leave claw marks in trees.

All of these marks are signals to other mountain lions that the area is occupied.


The mountain lion is usually silent, but has calls similar to an ordinary tomcat, though magnified. They also have a shrill, piercing whistle-scream, a hiss and a growl.

## Murray's Drug

Serving  
Eastern Oregon  
Since 1959



LIQUOR AGENCY  
PHARMACY  
HALLMARK CARDS  
HOUSEWARES  
FLORAL DEPARTMENT  
FULL SERVICE ESPRESSO BAR  
Gourmet Specialty Drinks  
Hot, Cold, and Blended

 Murray's Drug, INC.

217 North Main - Heppner - 676-9158  
WELCOME TO HEPPNER, OREGON!

## POLARIS ATVs and SNOWMOBILES



 **POLARIS**  
The Way Out.  
= SALES =  
= SERVICE =  
= PARTS =  
= ATV PERMITS =



## Morrow County Grain Growers

Main Street, Lexington

(541) 989-8221 = 1-800-452-7396

Visit our web site at [www.mcgg.net](http://www.mcgg.net)