

156 wildfires have burned over 267 acres already in 2006

Already this year, 156 wildfires have burned over 267 acres in Oregon. Most of these fires were the result of debris-burning fires that escaped due to wind or other factors. But the main reason they escaped is because the humans who started them didn't follow the rules set out in their burn permits.

Many Oregonians love to burn their backyard debris in piles or in burn barrels. In the last five years, however, 918 debris-burning fires burned 6,129 acres and cost \$4,211,052 to suppress. Statistics show that the greatest

numbers of these fires were started on private rural property by the property owner.

Escaped debris pile or burn barrel fires are the No. 1 cause of wildfires on state-protected lands in Oregon. Preventing these wildfires is an individual responsibility. Here are some points to follow to burn safely.

- Before you burn, obtain a burn permit from your local fire district or the Oregon Department of Forestry.
- Call each day before you burn to assure burning is allowed.
- Follow all burning regula-

tions and

- Keep piles small; add debris to the pile a little at a time.
- Know the weather forecast, especially the wind prediction.
- Stop burning IMMEDIATELY and put your fire out, DEAD OUT, if the wind starts to blow.
- Monitor your piles or barrels for at least two hours.
- Keep burn barrels away from structures, overhanging branches, or autos.
- Clear at least a 10-foot radius of all vegetation around the barrel.
- Make sure the barrel is covered with heavy mesh

screen to avoid flying embers.

- Burn only backyard debris (no construction materials or household waste).

Perhaps you have burned for 30 years and nothing has ever happened, but would you want your carelessness to be

the cause of another wildfire?

Be concerned and be careful. Help the Keep Oregon Green Association by taking responsibility for your actions and prevent further human-caused wildfires in Oregon.

Forestry Board agenda includes state forest plans

The Oregon Board of Forestry will review questions and comments from an April workshop on the management of the Tillamook and several other state-owned forests, and will also hear recommendations on how best to provide tree seedlings to family forest landowners when it meets June 7 in Salem.

The 8:00 a.m. meeting is open to the public and will be held in the Tillamook Room, Building C, at Oregon Department of Forestry headquarters, 2600 State St. in Salem.

The April workshop was held to determine if newly available information warrants changes in the management of state forests. Department staff have reviewed the questions raised at that session and will respond to them during board discussion at the June meeting.

The board will also receive a background paper and a presentation on draft strategies associated with the marbled murrelet, northern spotted owl and other species proposed for inclusion in the draft Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. The plan, under development since 1996, encompasses forestlands managed under the Northwest and Southwest State Forest Management plans. The majority of these lands lie within the Tillamook and Clatsop State forests in northwestern Oregon, and the Santiam State Forest east of Salem.

The Committee for Family Forestlands will submit its 2005 annual report and will present recommendations to the board for making seedling stock read-

ily available to small forest owners, to facilitate replanting following timber harvest. The committee advises the board and the state forester on issues that affect family forestland owners.

The Annual Forest Health Report, which describes insect and disease conditions in Oregon's forests, will also be presented. The findings include a 27 percent decline in 2005 in tree death caused by bark beetles. This was due to higher precipitation levels and improved tree vigor, which reduced the incidence of fir engraver insect mortality in true firs. Despite the overall trend, mountain pine beetle infestations in lodgepole pine continued to increase. The health report is a compilation of aerial and ground survey data collected by the Department of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service.

The winner of the 2005 Mary Rellergert Forestry Education Award will be announced at the meeting. Each year, the award, named for a department employee who passed away in 2004, recognizes an Oregon educator for making an outstanding contribution to forest education.

Shortly after 8:00 a.m., the public may comment on forestry-related items that not included in the agenda. Mem-

bers of the public wishing to comment on a specific agenda item will have opportunity to address the board during the time the item is scheduled.

More information on the Board of Forestry can be found on the web, <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/BOARD/>.

Accommodations for people with disabilities, and special materials, services or assistance can be arranged by calling the Oregon Department of Forestry Agency Affairs Office at least 48 hours before the meeting - (503) 945-7200, text telephone (503) 945-7213 (in Salem). Cordless listening devices will be available to anyone with impaired hearing. They may be obtained at the sign-in table in the Tillamook Room.

Boys invited to join Cub Scouts

Boys in Kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to join Banks Cub Scout Pack 581. Scouting helps develop future leaders and summer is a great time to find out about scouting.

Cub Scout Pack 581 will be involved in the following activities this summer: National Trail Cleanup Day at Buxton Trail Head on June 3; Pack Open House at Banks Scout Cabin, June 12 at 6:30 p.m.; Banks Parade/Flag Ceremony at Sunset Speedway on July 4; Day

Camp at Camp Ireland in Hillsboro, July 10-14; Webelos Camp at Gilbert Ranch, July 16-18; Pack Family Swim at Forest Grove Aquatic Center on July 22; Cub World Camp at Scouter's Mountain, August 11-13; Banks BBQ and Parade August 19-20; and Pack Summer Awards Picnic at Sunset Park, August 29.

Join now and enjoy all the activities planned. It's never too late to join Cub Scouts. For more information or to join, call 503-324-6800.

Health Fair June 4 at Banks Curves

A Health Fair will be held in Banks on Sunday, June 4, from noon to 3:00 p.m. at Curves, 163 N. Main, Suite B.

There will be tests and screenings of metabolism, bone density, total cholesterol, glucose, body fat and blood pressure. Bone density screening will cost \$20 and an ap-

pointment is needed. Cholesterol and glucose testing will be \$5 and the other tests are free.

The "Got Milk" people will be on hand to do Milk Mustache photos and offer free milk samples.

To schedule appointments or for more information, call Curves at 503-324-9262.

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|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1/2 BBQ Chicken Dinner..... | \$6.00 |
| Beef Rib Dinner (1/2 Rack)..... | \$6.00 |
| Pork Rib Dinner (1/3 Rack)..... | \$8.00 |
| 1/2 BBQ Chicken..... | \$5.00 |
| 1/2 Beef Ribs..... | \$5.00 |
| Full Rack Beef Ribs..... | \$10.00 |
| 1/3 Pork Ribs..... | \$7.00 |
| Full Rack Pork Ribs..... | \$21.00 |

Dinners include: Potato Salad, BBQ Baked Beans & a Dinner Roll.
660 So. Main, Banks • 503-324-2171