Town of Monroe Storm Clean-Up

On April 10, 2011, a wind event (tornado/straight line wind) passed through Central Wisconsin and resulted in downed trees throughout the Town of Monroe with the worst damage occurring in the Petenwell Pines subdivision. To reduce the amount of hazardous fuel, two projects were completed. First the Town opened their transfer station for two weeks to receive trees and brush. A contractor then had to chip the very large pile of brush. Secondly, carbide chipping was offered in the high subdivision of Petenwell Pines to assist homeowners in their clean-up efforts. The Petenwell Pines Homeowners’ Association promoted the carbide chipping project via their community information board, email and word of mouth and invited the Wisconsin DNR to give a Firewise presentation at their annual meeting.

Working together to make their community Firewise

Snug Harbor Completes First Firewise Project

Sung Harbor is a heavily wooded subdivision located in Quincy in Adams County, an area at high risk to wildfire. The Association Board formed a Firewise Committee which began running awareness of the wildfire issue and the creation of a Firewise newsletter adding advertising and notice to their website, and providing a smoke alarm/sprinkler system assessment. In addition, Sung Harbor recently completed a fuel reduction project in the Pine Forest, a s-care community-owned property which does several residences and is in the middle of the subdivision. The Pine Forest is a very dry-land planned red pine plantation which was recently thinned. Several loads of harvest slash were removed from the forest floor to improve the fire break provided by the road. This project will enable Sung Harbor eligible to become a recognized Firewise Community USA.

The Point of Origin

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 792
Plum Lake, WI 54767-7921

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides report analysis to this newspaper. If you have any questions, please write to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 128 South St., Madison, WI 53707-7921.

This publication is available in alternative formats to those with disabilities. Call 800-879-5299 to request alternative formats.

DNR offers Wildland Fire Training knowledge and skillful

Wildland fire training is being offered free of charge by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Currently, there are DNR fire service instructors presenting fire department wildland fire training in the Cooperative (Coop) areas of the state (see map). The training will assist fire departments prepare for next spring’s wildfire season.

Several training options are available. A comprehensive 4-hour “Introduction to Wildland Fire Suppression for Wisconsin Fire Departments” course is the first option. This is the Wisconsin standard course for wildland fire training. This entire course can be taught in two modules or one day long.

This course was developed with eight one-hour modules. These include an overview and the fire service; fire behavior classification; fire service communications, wildland fire tactics, techniques and safety. This class is designed for 3 hours or a single department training night.

Act now to secure this free wildland fire training for your fire department. Evening training.

Points of Origin

Created: 10/28/2011
Updated: 10/28/2011
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www.firewise.org
No PDF conversion, please.

Firewise Communities USA

Eight years ago, the Wisconsin DNR began working with its first homeowner association to launch the Firewise Communities USA recognition program in the Cities, Cliffside Lakes, and Flaming Gorge communities. Today, the program has grown to 104 communities in Wisconsin. Do you know of a community that would like to work towards Firewise Communities? For more information about the Firewise program, please visit www.Firewise.org.

New Video Tells a Wisconsin Firewise Story

A new video has just been released that goes a Wisconsin property owner on preparing to become a Firewise Community. The video features homeowners whose home stood undamaged through their property’s preparedness efforts, and it aims to present important information to homeowners and the public.

Storm Damage Recovery

When beginning the firewise process, start with the buildings on your property. Slowly draw off and out of the path of water. (See at least one inch per minute) Do not allow the water to extend to your building. Remove all flammable materials in the area of your property. This includes debris, foliage, and grass that are on the ground that could possibly ignite. Remove any debris that is in the same area as your home or your neighbors' homes. Do not make it easier for the trees to start fires. Do not allow debris to build up around your home or in areas that are not safe from the fire.

Dry Hydrant Maintenance - Aquatic Invasive Species Considerations

Dry hydrant maintenance is on the autumn to do list of fire departments across Wisconsin. A dry hydrant test program that task should fire department should include stopping the threat of spreading aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Wisconsin’s natural water bodies. Administrative code NR 329 (Publicwater Structures in Navigation Vessels) was enacted to help prevent lakes, rivers and streams from spreading a variety of harmful aquatic plants and animals. The intent of the program is to use one natural water including fire department or fire hydrants for maintenance purposes. Below are dry hydrant maintenance procedures that meet the requirements of NR 329. The procedures are divided as to the source of the fire hydrants: municipal or well water. The tank water does NOT need to be drained if the water is discharged in upland areas through suppression or dumping. Only ONE of the above measures is needed.

When using municipal or well water:

1. Back flush the dry hydrant as per the FD procedures.
2. Drain the tank water for water supply to the dry hydrant.
3. Disinfect all equipment with 200 ppm OR steam clean all equipment. Only ONE of the above disinfecting measures is needed.

When test is complete, drain water from the discharge hose and nozzle (NR 329.04 (5a)) and refill truck tank. Refill truck tank with either recipients resistant to both chemical and physical contamination, and then dispose of the waste material in the correct manner.

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