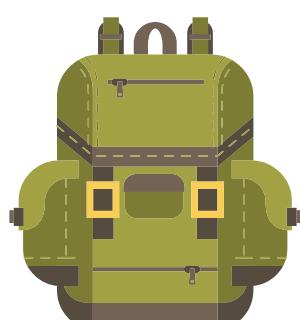




Recreating on the Forest During Fire Season?

Come prepared and do not rely on being notified by officials if a new fire threatens the area



Know before you go. Check weather and current fire information for the area where you plan to recreate to see if there has been any recent lightning activity or reported fires. Call the local Ranger District office, or check our forest website or Facebook pages.



Always carry the 10 Outdoor Essentials. Even if you are planning a short day hike, it's important to be prepared in case your plans have to change in a hurry.

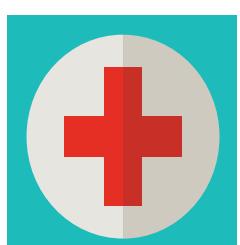


Bring a map and a compass (and know how to use them). Study the area ahead of time and identify possible alternate routes in case you are cut off from your planned route by fire.



Tell someone your trip plan. Make sure someone knows where you are, how long you plan to be gone, and is prepared to provide that information to authorities if something happens or you don't return as expected.

If there is a trailhead register, use it. Officials may use information provided at trailhead registers, such as planned destinations / activities, to help locate you if we need to sweep the area due to fire or other emergency.



Don't count on cell phones to work in remote locations. Consider carrying an emergency locator beacon or satellite device that can help you call for help if you need it.



Be prepared to self-rescue in the event of an emergency. Help may be hours or days away or not feasible under certain conditions.

If you do come across a new fire, evaluate the situation. If it's windy, and you're on a ridge or in a forest, be extra cautious. Fire typically moves faster uphill than it does downhill. Avoid being at the top of a ridge with a wildfire below. If you smell smoke not coming from a nearby campfire, or if you see a column of smoke, leave immediately. Take responsibility for your own safety.

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

