

Wildfires: Not in my backyard handout

Name: _____ Period: _____

Fill in the blank on the follow statements as you watch the PowerPoint.

Introduction:

1. Wildfire is an _____ fire that burns fields, grass, brush, or forests.
2. Wildfires effect:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____ and plants
 - d. Personal _____
3. Pennsylvania's wildfire season is in the _____ and _____ when leaves are off the deciduous trees.
4. On average _____ acres burn each year due to wildfires.
5. Lightning is a major cause of western wildfires, but cause less than _____ % of Pennsylvania wildfires.
6. Most Western wildfires occur between _____ to October when it is hot and dry. Most Pennsylvania wildfires occur from March to May and from October to November.

Fire behavior and the environment

7. Wildfire behavior and intensity is controlled by
 - a. _____
 - b. Topography
 - c. Weather
8. Grass, leaves and pine needs can dry in an _____. Small twigs and branches take several hours to dry.
9. Low relative _____, warmer temperatures, and wind rapidly dry grass, leaves, twigs, and branches.
10. Peak burning activity/wildfire risk is between 10 AM and ____ PM.

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11. Topography includes slope and _____. Each plays a role in wildfire behavior. Fire moves _____ up steep slopes and slower on flat terrain.
12. Aspect is the _____ (north, south, east or west) the terrain is facing. North facing slopes receive less direct early morning sunlight. South and west facing slopes receive direct afternoon and evening sunlight resulting in drier conditions.
13. Because of Pennsylvania's size, there is a South to North transition as the vegetation becomes green in the spring. The process _____ itself as fall colors come upon us and trees lose their leaves prior to winter.
This effects _____ wildfire activity occurs during these times.

Wildfire causes and way to reduce wildfire risk

14. Human activity causes _____ % of all wildfires in Pennsylvania with _____ burning and arson as the leading causes.
15. Individual responsible for starting a wildfire in Pennsylvania can be held accountable for the cost of putting out the fire including
 - a. manpower and _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
16. Practice safe debris burning.
 - a. Clear an area _____ feet around the barrel to prevent sparks from igniting material outside the barrel.
 - b. Have _____ and rake available to quickly put out sparks.
 - c. Use a metal container with $\frac{1}{2}$ inch ventilation holes at base to allow for quick and clean burning of debris.
 - d. Put a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch expanded steel _____ on top of the barrel as a spark arrester. Always make sure the fire is completely out before you walk away from the burn barrel or burning debris.

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17. Alternatives to burning debris

- a. _____
- b. Mulching
- c. Wildlife habitat
- d. _____

18. Check with your local Bureau of Forestry office about fire _____. When local or county-wide burn bans are in effect, campfires should not be used. When camping, use a stove to cook to reduce the risk of wildfire. A self-contained metal or ceramic fire pit can be used in place of an open campfire. And as always, be sure camp fires are put out cold.

19. Smokey's message: Only you can _____ wildfires.