

## 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 ½ inch ventilation holes at base to allow for quick and clean burning of debris.
  - d. Put a ¼ 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 you 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.