



Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

1001 E. 9th Street Bldg. D - 231

Reno, Nevada 89512

📞 775.326.6000

Fire Chief Charles A. Moore

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TRUCKEE MEADOWS
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
WASHOE COUNTY, NV

THE CITIZENS GUIDE FOR
WILDFIRE
TERMINOLOGY

REPORTING SIZE-UP!

WHAT IS THE SIZE?



SMALL SPOT
About the size
of a campfire



LARGE SPOT
About the size
of a bonfire



ONE ACRE \approx FOOTBALL FIELD
If it is larger than a bonfire,
the fire is described in
square feet or acreage

WHAT TYPE OF FUEL IS BURNING?



LIGHT FUELS
Grass, weeds, and
hay



MEDIUM FUELS
Sagebrush/Vegetation 3-5
ft high



HEAVY FUELS
Forested or wooded areas

If you are calling 911 to report a fire, these factors are helpful to both Dispatch and to the Fire Department :

WHAT IS THE RATE OF SPREAD?



SLOW

Walking speed
or no spread



MODERATE

Jogging Speed



FAST

Running Speed, usually
influenced by topography or
wind

WHAT IS THREATENED?



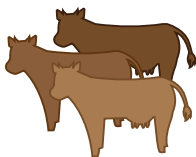
STRUCTURES

Are there structures nearby?
How far away to the nearest
structure?



SUBDIVISION

Is the fire moving towards
structures? Is one structure at risk
or an entire subdivision?



LIVESTOCK

Is the fire moving towards
livestock?



TANKS

Is the fire moving towards any outside
tanks, like propane or fuel?

OUR VEHICLES

TYPE 1 STRUCTURE ENGINE

Used for structure protection, a Type 1 Engine has a 750 gallon tank capacity and is capable of pumping 1500 gallons per minute. The engine carries up to 4 personnel and is equipped with 1 ¾ inch hose, 2 ½ inch hose, 3 inch hose, 5 inch hose and ladders.



TYPE 3 BRUSH ENGINE

Used for off road fire attack, a Type 3 Engine has a minimum 500 gallon capacity and a minimum pump flow of 500 gallons per minute. The engine is 4 wheel drive, carries up to 4 personnel, is equipped with 1 inch hose, 1 ½ inch hose, 3 inch hose, and has the ability to pump and roll.



TYPE 6 BRUSH ENGINE

Used for direct attack on small spot fires, a Type 6 engine carries a minimum of 150 gallons. This apparatus carries 2 personnel, is equipped with 1 inch hose, 1 ½ inch hose, and has the ability to pump and roll.



WATER TENDER

Used to resupply engines or fill portable tanks, water tenders carry up to 3,000 gallons of water with an offload capacity of 500 gallons per minute. Water tenders are a vital component to fighting fires in areas that are without water hydrants.



OUR AIR SUPPORT



NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY (NDF) HELICOPTER

The Nevada Division of Forestry has a primary focus of inter-agency sharing of resources for wildland firefighting. NDF has 3 Hueys with air bases at the Minden-Tahoe Airport, Stead Airport and the Battle Mountain Airport. During the summer months the 3 Hueys and Helitack personnel are based at the Minden-Tahoe Airport.



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WCSO RAVEN HELICOPTER

RAVEN is an HH-1H Huey outfitted with a belly-mounted water tank with a capacity of 323 gallons of water, and 27 gallons of foam. RAVEN assists TMFPD with initial attack/firefighting, area mapping, as well as search and rescue.



NEVADA ARMY GUARD UH-60 BLACKHAWK

The UH-60 Black hawk is a twin-engine helicopter equipped with a bucket that can carry up to 660 gallons of water.



NEVADA ARMY GUARD CH-47

The CH-47 Chinook is a twin-engine helicopter equipped with a bucket that can carry up to 2,000 gallons of water.



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HEAVY AIR TANKER

Air tankers based in Nevada during the fire season are contracted by the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service.



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SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKER (SEAT)

W I L D F I R E BASIC EVACUATION KIT

Follow the directions given by fire crews and law enforcement to stay safe. Have an evacuation plan! Practice your plan so that everyone knows where the “Go Bag” is kept, and is comfortable with loading family and pets. Know the drill! Have a communication plan in place to include a neighborhood meeting place, a regional meeting place, and an out of town contact that will serve as the “hub” if family members can’t reach one another.

**Stay informed! Sign-up for regional alerts at
www.readywashoe.com***

Washoe County has a telephone notification system for use in times of crisis. The system is known as “Code Red.”

While no system can ever be guaranteed to be disaster proof, local officials make every effort to keep the public informed. Every residence with a “land-line” installed telephone is in the 911 database. If you have an unlisted number, or wish to list your cell phone or work phone for emergency notification, you must sign-up.

*Washoe County cannot guarantee the phone numbers will be included into emergency database.



PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS



PRESCRIPTION GLASSES



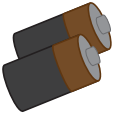
INFANT FORMULA AND DIAPERS



CASH OR TRAVELER'S CHECKS



PET FOOD, LEASHES, AND EXTRA WATER FOR PETS



BATTERIES AND FLASHLIGHTS



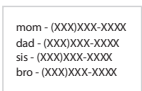
DUST MASKS



FOOD AND WATER



CELL PHONES AND CHARGERS



FAMILY AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION



PERSONAL DOCUMENTS (BIRTH CERTIFICATES, PASSPORTS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC.)

WILDFIRE TERMINOLOGY

GLOSSARY

ANCHOR POINT

An advantageous location, usually a barrier to fire spread, from which to start constructing a fireline. The anchor point is used to provide for firefighter safety by reducing the chance of being flanked by the fire while the line is being constructed.

BRUSH FIRE

A fire burning in vegetation that is predominantly shrubs, brush, and scrub growth.

COLD LINE OR COLD TRAIL

A fireline that has been controlled. The fire has been mopped up for a safe distance inside the line and can be considered safe to leave unattended.

CONTAINED

The status of a wildfire suppression action signifying that a control line has been completed around the fire, and any associated spot fires, which can reasonably be expected to stop the fire's spread. The district is very conservative in containment estimates.

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CONTROLLED FIRE

The complete extinguishment of a fire, including spot fires or burning within the interior. This can occur even after 100% containment.

CONTROL LINE

An inclusive term for all constructed or natural barriers and treated fire edges used to control a fire.

COOPERATING AGENCY OR MUTUAL AID AGENCY

An agency supplying assistance including but not limited to direct tactical or support functions or resources to the incident control effort.

DIRECT ATTACK

Any treatment applied directly to burning fuel such as wetting, smothering, or chemically quenching the fire or by physically separating the burning vegetation from unburned vegetation.

EXPOSURE

Property that may be endangered by a fire burning in another structure or by a wildfire. Exposure may also indicate the direction in which a slope faces, usually with respect to cardinal directions.

EXTENDED ATTACK

A wildland fire that has not been contained or controlled by initial attack forces within the first 24 hours. The complexity level of the incident will increase beyond the capabilities of initial attack forces.

FLANKS OF A FIRE

The parts of a fire's perimeter that are roughly parallel to the main direction of spread.

HANDLINE

Fireline constructed with hand tools.

HEAD OF A FIRE

The most rapidly spreading portion of a fire's perimeter. A developing wildland fire can have multiple heads.

INDIRECT ATTACK

A method suppression in which the control line is located some considerable distance away from the fire's active edge. Generally done in the case of a fast-spreading of high-intensity fire.

INITIAL ATTACK (IA)

A preplanned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential. Initial attack may include size up, patrolling, monitoring, holding action or suppression within the first 24 hours.



KNOCK DOWN

To extinguish the flame and reduce heat on the burning parts of a vegetation to prevent any further fire growth.

MOP UP

Extinguishing or removing burning material near control lines, felling snags, and trenching logs to prevent rolling after an area has burned, to make a fire safe, or to reduce residual smoke.

POCKETS OF A FIRE

Unburned indentations in the fire edge formed by fingers or slow burning areas.

RED FLAG WARNING

A warning issued by the National Weather Service to alert the community of conditions that could lead to rapid or dramatic increases in wildfire activity. This may be any combination of low relative humidity, strong winds, and/or dry fuels.

SCRATCH LINE

An unfinished preliminary control line hastily established or constructed as an emergency measure to check the spread of fire.

SPOTTING

Behavior of a fire producing sparks or embers that are carried by the wind and which start new fires beyond the zone of direct ignition by the main fire.

WET LINE

A line of water, or water and chemical retardant, sprayed along the ground, and which serves as a temporary control line from which to ignite or stop a low-intensity fire.

WIND-DRIVEN WILDLAND FIRE

A wildland fire that is controlled by a strong consistent wind.

TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE DISTRICT MAP

