

FIRE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH IN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Purpose: The poster session will complement the breakout sessions regarding fire communication, education, and outreach and provide information on programs and products available for these purposes. **Approach:** The National Park Service Fire Communication and Education group will approach this topic from a national, regional, and park perspective using examples and information from across the United States. **Key Messages:** There are many products already available, so new programs do not have to reinvent the wheel if they would like to build their program. There are many products available for loan, for free, or for shipping fees from a national or regional level that can be borrowed during festivals and events, as well as during incidents. **Conclusions/Recommendations:** Parks and other units should utilize the resources available to create a dynamic program through utilization of products that have already been created that will be highlighted during this poster session.

LIVING WITH WILDFIRE IN COLORADO

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In this presentation, we describe results of a survey to homeowners living in wildfire-prone areas of two counties along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. The survey was designed to elicit information on homeowners' experience with wildfire, perceptions of wildfire risk on their property and neighboring properties, mitigation efforts undertaken to reduce wildfire risk, information sources for wildfire risk and mitigation, level of involvement in the local community, and attitudes toward wildfire and the environment in general. The sample was randomly drawn from a population database created using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) technology. The representative sampling allowed us to hear from individuals who might not be participating in community wildfire programs or be concerned with wildfire risk, as well as individuals who are involved and concerned. A letter of introduction offered each household in the sample the choice of completing a paper or a Web-based survey. Preliminary data analyses suggest that most of the survey respondents are year-round residents living in single-family homes that are >100 feet from the next nearest residence. Most of the respondents have experienced a wildfire <10 miles from their current residence. However, very few respondents' homes were damaged by a wildfire or smoke from a wildfire. Local fire departments are the most commonly cited source of information about wildfire risk and also the source in which survey respondents said they had the most confidence with respect to accuracy of the information. Further analyses will look at the relationships between information sources and wildfire risk reduction actions taken on a survey respondent's property. Likewise, the role of social interactions and wildfire risk mitigation actions will be explored. Conclusions will be based on additional data analyses.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION FOR FIRE, FUEL AND SMOKE PROGRAM

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The mission of Conservation Education for the Fire, Fuel and Smoke (FFS) Program is to develop and deliver high-quality, science-based education about wildland fire to students, educators, the general public, and agency staff. Goals: 1) Increase awareness of the scope and content of FFS research. 2) Improve understanding of fundamental concepts in wildland fire science. 3) Increase interest in the application of science to wildland management.