

CARING FOR THE FOREST

FOREST MANAGERS TAKE CARE OF THE FOREST, INCLUDING KEEPING THEM SAFE FROM WILDFIRES. Fires start when heat sources (like sparks, a lit cigarette, or lightning), fuel sources (something that can burn, like wood or dry grass) and oxygen (which is always in the air) come together.

Forest managers spend some of their time reducing fuel and heat sources in the forest. To do this, they sometimes have to make changes in the forest, like reducing the number of trees. Sometimes they try to change the way people behave when they are in forests, so that people understand the correct way to build and put out campfires or rules about using gas-powered equipment.

FOREST MANAGERS DO THREE THINGS TO PREVENT WILDFIRES:

1. Reduce the amount of fuel in the forests (F)
2. Reduce the amount of heat sources in forest. (H)
3. Improve human wildfire prevention habits. (P)

PLACE AN F, H, OR P IN THE BOXES NEXT TO EACH ACTIVITY BELOW.
SOME ACTIVITIES MAY HELP WITH MORE THAN ONE OF THE THREE GOALS.

① Removing some of the smaller trees in an area to increase the distance between trees, thus reducing the chance of fire jumping from tree to tree (called "thinning")

② Putting up signs and posters to remind people to put their campfires out, DEAD out!

③ Controlled burning of some forested areas (called "prescribed burning") to reduce the fuels

④ Restricting the use of gas-powered equipment in certain areas

⑤ Enforcing regulations that require equipment to have special safety devices, like "spark arrestors" on chain saws

⑥ Presenting campfire programs to teach people wildfire prevention measures

⑦ Temporarily closing forest areas to vehicles due to the high wildfire danger



NOT ALL FIRE IS BAD FOR THE FOREST

Forest managers will often use controlled fires to reduce the risk of wildfire. This is done with a "prescription," or rules about how the burning would be managed. If all the rules can't be met that day (such as the wind blowing or the temperature is too high), then the prescribed burn is postponed until all safety measures can be met.

Prescribed burning not only reduces the fuels for wildfire prevention, but it also helps to improve the health of the forest.



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**PLAY THIS GAME
TO FIND OUT HOW A FOREST
MANAGER TAKES CARE
OF THE FOREST.**

KOG Ranger Activity 10
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TO PLAY:

- ♦ **FIND A SMALL STONE OR COIN TO USE AS A GAME MARKER.**
- ♦ **USE A COIN TO FLIP FOR MOVING AHEAD.
HEADS = 2 SPACES
TAILS = 1 SPACE**

START

Fire Managers post signs reminding people to be careful with fire.
MOVE AHEAD 2 SPACES



There are too many dead tree branches, leaves, and brush around your house. **MISS A TURN** while you help your parents clear it away.



Fire Managers do a prescribed burn to reduce the amount of fuels on the ground.
MOVE AHEAD 4 SPACES.



Fire Managers remove some smaller trees, leaving more room for larger trees and less fuel for wildfires.
MOVE AHEAD 3 SPACES.



Kids playing with matches started a wildfire.
GO BACK TO THE START.



Little brother playing with matches. You take them away and give them to your mom. **MOVE AHEAD 3 SPACES.**



Fire Managers teach campers to build safe campfires and then the correct way to put them out . . . **DEAD OUT!**
MOVE AHEAD 4 SPACES.



Use of gas-powered equipment and off-highway vehicles is restricted due to wildfire danger.
MOVE AHEAD 2 SPACES.



A smoker throws a burning cigarette out of a car window. Two hours later a wildfire starts. **GO BACK 3 SPACES.**



FINISH!



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LEARN MORE ABOUT THE KEEP OREGON GREEN RANGER PROGRAM AT www.keeptoregongreen.org