

Wisconsin Wildland Incident Report 2004

DEATHS

Date	LEVEL OF PROTECTION	COUNTY	SEX	AGE	POSITION DURING THE FIRE	INJURY (IES)	CIRCUMSTANCE	DNR ON SCENE
10/26/04	Coop	Rock	M	80	Responsible Party	Sever burns to entire body	The individual apparently was getting ready to empty leaves from his mower's catching device when the accident occurred., It appeared that the gentleman's clothes may have caught fire as the result of a leaf pile that was burning	Never

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03/23/04	Extensive	Richland	M	64	Responsible Party	2 nd degree burns to forearms	Attempting to suppress the fire.	After
04/02/04	Extensive	Marquette	M	64	Responsible Party	Heart Attack	While attempting to suppress the fire the individual collapsed from a mild heart attack	After
04/07/04	Coop	Vernon	M	24	VFD FF	2 nd degree burns to face	Conducting a prescribe burn in light fuel, grass, with the FD on private land. The individual was part of a holding crew when a flare up occurred causing the individual to receive a face full of fire resulting in burns to his face.	Never
04/10/04	Extensive	Green Lake	M	49	Responsible Party	2 nd degree burns to lower extremities	The fire started from a failing mower he was using to cut brush and grass. As he made another pass he noticed the fire, jumped off his tractor, and while attempting to stomp the fire out	After

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							he received 2 nd degree burns to his feet and legs. Individual also had shortness of breath requiring medical attention.	
04/13/04	Intensive	Ashland	M	55	Responsible Party	2 nd degree burns to both hands	Individual was shooting a rifle at a steel plate. Shrapnel from the plate or bullet ignited grass below the target. Fire spread to surrounding area, in his attempt to extinguish fire individual sustained 2nd degree burns to both hands. He did not seek medical attention	After
04/16/04	Intensive	Rusk	M	30s	VFD Fire fighter	Smoke Inhalation	A volunteer fireman was working on a wildland fire burning in grass fuels and suffered smoke inhalation. While suppressing the fire from a road. The firefighter was transported, treated, and released from the local hospital.	After
04/18/04	Intensive	Jackson	M	43	Responsible Party	2 nd degree burns to hand	While trying to get his car out of the ditch by rocking the vehicle, wildland fuels underneath the vehicle ignited from the exhaust pipe, which in turn ignited the vehicle, totally destroying the vehicle. In the process, the party sustained burns on his right hand and was treated by the Black River Falls Ambulance Service.	After
04/18/04	Intensive	Adams	M	65	Responsible Party	Individual received 2 nd degree burns to his hands, face and neck. Lost his eye	Individual was using a skid-steer type loader to suppress a forest fire. At the time he was working the area of the right flank towards the head when a wind shift blew the fire into the cab	After

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						lashes, eyebrows and side burns.	area of the skid-steer and he was caught in a burn over situation. He was working the piece of equipment from the "green side" of the fire.	
04/28/04	Intensive	Chippewa	M	19	VFD fire fighter	Smoke inhalation and fatigue	FD fire fighter was transported to the hospital after being overcome by smoke and fatigue on a remote, swampy type fire. He was working the right flank of the fire when he collapsed. The fire was inaccessible to trucks and heavy equipment, thus requiring a lot physical work with backcans in wet conditions. He was treated and released.	During
05/05/04	Intensive	Taylor	M	59	Responsible Party	1st degree burn to side of his face 2 nd /3 rd degree on the top of forearms	Individual was attempting to suppress the fire and move a vehicle from the fire scene when he sustained his injuries.	Prior
11/02/04	Intensive	Rusk	M	43	Responsible Party	1 st /2 nd degree to burns to hands and face.	Individual was attempting to ignite a brush pile from a small clearing operation with accelerate when the fire blew up burning his hands and face. He admitted himself to the local hospital for observation.	Never
12/18/04	Coop	St. Croix	M	74	Responsible Party	3 rd degree burns on 25% of his body and 4 th degree burn on his leg	While combining corn, the combine threw a spark causing a wildland fire. Individual attempted to suppress the fire when his clothes caught fire. He was taken to the hospital by his grandson	Never

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5/05/05	Coop	Chippewa	M	70	Responsible Party	2 nd and 3 rd Degree burns mainly to lower half of his body	An elderly couple was doing a prescribed burn on their property and the fire escaped their control. The couple began suppression actions. The husband's clothes caught on fire while he was trying to suppress the fire and he was severely burned. He was transported to the hospital by helicopter. He died several weeks later.	Never

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4/03/05	Intensive	Adams	M	65	Responsible Party	1 st & 2 nd Degree burn to back of hand	Male party was trying to burn a small area of grass on property he was looking to buy. The fire escaped his control and he attempted to suppress the fire with a rake. His wife then went to call 911.	After
4/09/05	Intensive	Clark	M	45	Responsible Party	2 nd Degree burn to abdomen	The individual attempted to suppress the fire, shirtless, with wet towels in flashy fuels. The individual received 1 st degree burns to the upper body and face while receiving more severe burns, 2 nd degree, to the hip area	After
4/09/05	Intensive	Clark	F	10	Lookout for Responsible Party	Smoke Inhalation	While being directed by her mother to act as a lookout for	After

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							her father (above party) while he attempted to suppress the fire. She received heavy smoke inhalation and was evaluated by the local FD and then transported to the hospital by the parents.	
4/10/05	Extensive	Waupaca	M	25	DNR Fire Fighter / Rider	Crushed 2 fingers	Individual was attempting to adjust the chain during a TP extraction process when miscommunication occurred and the chain was tightened with the individuals hand caught in the chain.	During
4/13/05	Intensive	Oneida	M	22	Responsible Party	1 st & 2 nd Degree burn to back of hands & wrists	Male party obtained a burning permit for brush & lit the small pile of brush after 6:00pm. However, the pile was in the middle of a hardwood woods. The RP did not have any suppression tools or water available. The fire escaped his control and he suffered the burns while trying to control it	After
4/13/05	Extensive	Portage	M	38	DNR Fire Fighter	Scratched cornea/white of eye.	While sizing up his Division in a thicket of hawthorn the individual received a scratch in the eye by branches. Was later seen by Optometrist.	During
4/15/05	Intensive	Monroe	M	22	DNR Fire Fighter / Rider	2 nd Degree burn to the elbow	DNR Fire fighter was burning out the line at the head of the fire, building fire line when the fire flared up and the FF wrap his arm around his face for protection causing burns on his elbow and nose.	During

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5/03/05	Intensive	Sawyer	M	63	Responsible Party	2nd degree burns to his right lower leg	The subject was burning debris when embers ignited grass fuels. The fire quickly spread moving upslope into hardwood forest litter. The subject attempted to suppress the fire with water and a rake. He was burned when the cotton blue jeans he was wearing caught fire. The subject had recently had open heart surgery and was treated by Round Lake first responders and later by Sawyer County ambulance service. He refused transport to hospital.	After
5/05/05	Intensive	Adams	M	42	FD – Fire fighter	Dehydration	While conducting mop – up individual began to have symptoms of dehydration. Treated at the ER and released	During
5/05/05	Intensive	Adams	M	31	FD – Fire fighter	Scratched eye	Scratched left eye when a branch came through an open window in the engine. Treated at the ER and released – scratched cornea	During
5/05/05	Intensive	Adams	M	29	MTE – Fire fighter	Eye irritation	While conducting mop – up with hose and hand tools. Individual began to have eye irritation; he flushed the eye with his canteen. Still irritated when came off shift 0800. Evaluated by Big Flats Fire Chief; recommended to go to ER. ER Doctor contacted the safety officer later in morning and noted he suspected ash in	During

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							eye; treated and released.	
5/05/05	Extensive	Marquette	F	75	Responsible Party	1st and 2nd degree burns to her arms	Individual was while trying to suppress a forest fire she started. The fire started when she pulled a tick off her poodle, placed the tick in a towel, and tried to kill the tick by burning it. The towel caught fire and she threw it in the leaves outside her camper. An ambulance was called for her injuries but a release was signed.	After
8/06/05	Extensive	Marquette	M	83	Responsible Party	1st and 2nd Degree Burns to right forearm.	The male was burning brush next to a wooded area when his fire escaped causing a forest fire. The R.P. tried extinguishing the fire on his own but got tangled in briars and other brush the fire was burning through. While trying to extinguish the fire he burned the upper portion of his right forearm. The injury was spotted by DNR Ranger and was treated on scene by Neshkoro first responders who encouraged the R.P. to get further medical assistance from his own doctor. The man was driven to the hospital by his wife.	After

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04/09/06	Extensive	Waupaca	M	55	Landowner	1 st and 2 nd degree burns to the face	DNR and Waupaca Fire Department were paged to the scene after the landowner had begun to try to suppress the fire. DNR ranger became aware of the landowners burns as he was taking a statement from him. The ranger noted his face was red and he mentioned it to him, but he said he felt fine. As he wiped his face off with a damp cloth, patches of skin began to peel off so they suspended the interview and the DNR ranger accompanied him to the local emergency room.	After
04/10/06	Coop	Outagamie	M	45	Volunteer FF	Heat Exhaustion	While suppressing a wildland fire the FF succumbed to heat exhaustion and was transported by ambulance to hospital, treated and released	Never
04/14/06	Intensive	Marinette	M	45	Walk on fire fighter	Smoke inhalation	The DNR requested a rescue squad to the scene for a citizen who thought he'd fight the fire and fell down from smoke inhalation. Rescue squad treated and released the person. One of the citizens in that area decided to solicit more help on the fire, so he ran to the local tavern, walked in the door, and stated, "We need all the help we	During

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							can get for a fire". DNR then spent the next 20 minutes attempting to remove people from the fire line.	
04/14/06	Intensive	Washburn	M	45	Responsible Party	2 nd degree burns to foot, 1 st degree burns to chest	Responsible party attempting to suppress the fire	After the injury
04/16/06	Intensive	Eau Claire	M	75	Responsible Party	1 st & 2 nd Degree burn to inner side of for arm	Male party was tending a small campfire in a rock-lined ring in his back yard. He had taken precautions and raked away the pine needles 304 feet away from the area of the campfire, a strong gust of wind blew embers into surrounding pine needles. With humidity's in the teens, the fire kept spreading in the pine needles. He was burned while using a rake to try and contain the fire while in short sleeves. His wife called 911 to report the fire when her husband went in the house to get her help in fighting the fire.	After
04/17/06	Intensive	Rusk	M	52	Responsible Party	1st and 2nd degree burns to his right leg, both arms and hands as well as his face	Responsible party dumped ashes adjacent to grass which ignited and was beginning to become a forest fire (running grass fire). The RP then attempted to suppress the forest fire (running grass fire) with his tractor that was equipped a hydraulic bucket loader. He was attempting to suppress the head of the fire in an area of unburned grass. A hydraulic line on the tractor broke spraying hydraulic oil	After the injury

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							onto the RPs clothing and onto the side of the tractor. The forest fire then started to overcome the RP and the tractor. The RP escaped the fire by running through the flames while holding his arms over his face.	
04/19/06	Intensive	Marinette	M	46	Home Owner/ Responsible Party	2nd degree burns on both of his arms. On one arm the burns extended from his shoulder to his elbow. The other arm was burned in that same area, but not quite as severely with only about half of it blistered and with loose skin.	He received the burns while trying to prevent the fire from spreading into the surrounding forest from the structures that were ignited from his outdoor furnace. The rescue squad was paged and that individual was transported for treatment, released the same day.	After the injury
04/27/06	Intensive	Langlade	M	48	Incident Commander	Unknown Smoke exposure	During fire suppression actions the subject was exposed smoke coming from a junk vehicle with miscellaneous items inside spreading into grass and other vehicles. Requiring follow up medical evaluation.	During
04/27/06	Intensive	Langlade	M	47	Tractor Plow Operator	Unknown Smoke exposure	During fire suppression actions the subject was exposed smoke coming from a junk vehicle with miscellaneous items inside spreading into grass and other vehicles. Requiring follow up medical evaluation.	During

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5/3/05	Intensive	Sawyer	M	62	Responsible Party	2 nd degree burns to his lower right leg	He received the burns while attempting to suppress the wildfire he started. The cause of the fire was debris burning - incinerator. He was treated by an EMT who was on scene.	
5/22/06	Intensive	Bayfield	M	44	Responsible Party	Smoke inhalation	The responsible party was working on the fire with a rake until the fire department arrived. He went up to his house and began to feel poorly (coughing and heaving). An emt was one of the first ones to arrive and decided to transport to Memorial Medical Center in Ashland for smoke inhalation. He stayed overnight in the ICU and was given breathing treatments and oxygen. He was released the following morning.	After the injury
5/22/06	Intensive	Rusk	M	70	Responsible Party	1st and 2nd degree burns to his left forearm	Responsible party received his injuries while he was suppressing the fire with a shovel. The fire was not reported to any authorities when it escaped control. The man said that he sustained the burns over the course of the time he was fighting the fire. He could not recall a single moment when he got burned. He said that he was burned slightly at various times during suppression efforts. He did not seek professional medical attention.	After

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05/23/2006	Intensive	Adams	M	51	Responsible Party	2nd degree burns on his right leg below the knee	Responsible party was attempting to suppress the fire with his feet. He was wearing shorts (his clothes did not catch fire).	After
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ACCIDENTS

DATE	PROTECTION	COUNTY	SEX	AGE	POSITION DURING THE FIRE	INJURY (IES)	CIRCUMSTANCE	DNR ON SCENE
03/19/06	Extensive	Marquette	M	32	TP Operator	Singed eye brows	DNR employee was plowing the right flank in fuel model 3. While rounding the head the fire behavior switched from approximately 5 foot flame lengths to upwards of 15-20' flame lengths. Resulting in a burnover situation.	During