

STATE WILDFIRE SUPPORT CREWS

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

GENERAL

1. **NAME:** The organization will be known as the _____ Wildfire Support Crew.
2. **PURPOSE:** (The following statement must be included in the papers of incorporation). To provide additional manpower to the Pennsylvania DCNR, Bureau of Forestry and in particular the District Forest Fire Warden, for the purpose of wildfire suppression, training, fire prevention, and other emergency incidents.
3. **MEMBERSHIP:** All members must be 18 years or older, complete the required training, work capacity and other requirements.
4. **WORK CAPACITY:** All fire line members will be required to pass the national work capacity test for wild land fire suppression. Moderate – 2-mile hike with 25-pound pack in 30 minutes. No work capacity requirement non-fire line (administrative) members.
5. **TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:** Fire line members must have successfully completed the following training: PA 130-Basic Fire Course, S190-Basic Fire Behavior, I-100 Basic ICS, Watch Out Situations and Standard Fire Orders and Fire Shelter Training/annual update.
6. **ANNUAL REQUIREMENT:** Members must attend a minimum of three (3) training sessions per year totaling at least 12 hours and attend three (3) regular crew meetings per year. It is highly recommended that line members participate in an outdoor training exercise. This outdoor training should be performed just before the spring fire season and should be coordinated through the District Fire Warden.
7. **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:** While engaged in any wildfire incident all fire line members must wear PPE as required in the PA 130 training course. NFPA Nomex may be substituted for natural fiber clothing. Additionally NFPA approved hardhat and fire shelter are required. On all emergency incidents, the Crew Fire Warden and or the District Forest Fire Warden will determine proper safety dress.
8. **TEAM BUILDING:** Active members are expected to work together as a team and engage in a positive and productive behavior.
9. **SAFETY ISSUES:** At no time during an assignment or other crew activity, will any crewmember be under the influence of alcohol, illegal

drugs or substances. All injuries must be immediately reported to the District Fire Warden through the Crew Fire Warden.

10. SUPERVISION: The Crew must be under the supervision of the Crew Fire Warden, a Special Assistant Fire Warden or other Local Fire Warden while assigned to a wildfire or other incident.

11.CHAIN OF COMMAND: The Incident Command System shall be used on all emergency incidents.

12. LEGAL: Any member arrested or cited for a felony or a violation of the wildfire law will be immediately suspended from active status until cleared or convicted. If convicted, the member shall be immediately terminated from the Crew. If cleared, the member may be reinstated to active member status.

OUT OF DISTRICT ASSIGNMENTS

13. STANDARD CREW SIZE: The standard crew size for wildfire assignments will be 10 fire fighters including a fire warden as the leader.

14. STANDARD WORK SHIFT: The standard work shift on any out of district assignment will be 12 hours on the fire scene, including assignment briefing and orientation.

15. FIRE LINE TOOLS: The Crew will be expected to respond with their own fire line hand tools and be self sufficient for one (1) shift.

16. COMMUNICATION: The Crew should respond with a hand held FM radio compatible with fire organization of the receiving district.

17. TRANSPORTATION: Transportation to another district shall be the responsibility of the Crew. A detailed listing of any expenses incurred by the Crew while in travel status must be sent to home district within 15 days of returning from the fire. The home district will forward this paperwork to the receiving district.

18 .LEADERSHIP: While the crew is on the fire line, there shall be one supervisor for every five fire fighters.

19. PAPERS: A copy of the incorporation papers for each crew must be on file in the Division of Forest Fire Protection office.