

Fire Situation Report – November 30, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry - Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 11/29/16 thru 11/30/16

NE Area – No New Activity
EC Area – No New Activity
SE Area – 2 Fires Burned 1 Acre (Cause: 2-Incendiary)

Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area: No New Activity

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area: No New Activity

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity: No Activity

* Protection Area Statistics do not reflect local fire department's fire run information. Statistics are for the ODAFF-Forestry Services' fifteen county Fire Protection Area in eastern Oklahoma unless otherwise noted in the Discussion section of this report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS** from www.firereporting.ok.gov recorded on 11/29/16 thru 11/30/16

No New Activity Reported – Activity noted through media outlets

**These statistics are from Fire Departments that have recorded their information on the Oklahoma, Forestry Services web-based Fire Reporting System. Totals do not reflect the total acres burned or total number of fires that have occurred in Oklahoma.

Statewide Discussion: Drier than predicted conditions occurred yesterday as a cold front moved across Oklahoma resulting in much cooler temperatures this morning. Low dewpoint temperatures suppressed moisture recovery overnight and much of the state is registering relative humidity values this morning near 60% or lower at many reporting stations. As a result, relative humidity values during the peak of the burning period today will likely fall below 30% statewide driving fine fuel moisture values into a very receptive state.

Temperatures this afternoon will range from the upper 40°s in the Panhandle to upper 50°s along the Red River. Despite the cooler temperatures moderate to very-high fire danger indices will be present across Oklahoma today as strong drying conditions encourage fine fuel availability. Winds will be westerly today around 10 mph south of I-40; however stouter westerly winds this afternoon north of I-40 combined with fine-dead fuel moisture at 5-6% will present potential for rapid rates of fire spread in grass dominated fuels. The highest fire danger today will reside north of I-44 in eastern Oklahoma and north of I-40 in western Oklahoma where west-northwest winds this afternoon around 15 mph gusting in excess of 20 mph at times may prompt rapid rates of fire spread in unsheltered fine fuels.

Thursday will bring continued dry conditions following only moderate moisture recovery overnight and only a slight boost in relative humidity values during the burning period. Light and variable winds are expected through the day on Thursday moderating rates of fire spread, but may result in erratic spread direction.

Special Note to the Public: The fall season provides good opportunity to apply Firewise practices around your home increasing the probability that homes and outbuildings are resilient should a wildfire occur. Freezing temperatures in the overnight hours have put a halt to the growing season pushing grass and brush into dormancy as well as promoting deciduous trees to shed their leaves adding to the fuel available to burn under wildfire conditions. With cooler temperatures and pleasant days, the fall period provides a good opportunity to make your home and property Firewise!

Here are a few tips to consider...

- As the leaves fall, remove them from around the house, under decks, gutters and in window wells.
- Mow grass short around structures and rake away excess clippings.
- Remove or cut-back summer growth (especially ornamental grasses) around the house and other structures.
- Trim overhanging limbs from driveways and access points to provide adequate ingress for fire equipment and to improve visibility.
- As you gather firewood for the winter season be sure to stack it away from structures.
- Disconnect and drain garden hoses, but leave them coiled near spigots so that fire personnel can easily access them if needed.

County Burn Ban Activated: No Active Burn Bans

For the most current information on Burn Bans click on the following link: <http://www.forestry.ok.gov/burn-ban-information>

Remember... ONLY YOU can prevent wildfires! Enjoy Oklahoma's wildlands responsibly.

Report any suspicious wildland fire activity on the Arson Tip Line: 1-866-662-7766 (1-866-NO ARSON).

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