



Anchorage Fire Department • Wildfire Mitigation Office

PO Box 196650 • Anchorage, AK • 99519
Phone 907.267.4980 • Fax 907.243.1654

www.muni.org/fire



***Forsythe Park & O'Malley Elementary
2007 Wildfire Mitigation Project***

Contact Sue Barkwood 267-4902

1-15-07

To mitigate the risk and hazard of wildfire in the neighborhood, the Anchorage Fire Department has partnered with the MOA Parks & Recreation Department to treat Forsythe Park by removing dead trees and pruning the live healthy spruce trees. This project is expected to begin in the spring of 2007.



Wildfire Mitigation in Forsythe Park Spring 2007

This beautiful park has lost many spruce trees to the spruce bark beetle. In an effort to keep a forest fire from spreading into the surrounding neighborhood and to support the growth and vigor of live trees, the forest treatment project will carefully remove fuels and limb trees. A 50-foot buffer will be left around the stream.

Improving forest health in this park may be accomplished by pruning the live, residual trees to stave off a future bark beetle attack. Removing the large fuels from the forest will allow more light to encourage regeneration of spruce and birch seedlings. Spruce seedlings and native grasses will be planted on the site where open or scarified patches occur.

Dead trees will be removed, both standing and downed. A small excavator will be used to move logs to the parking lots; this will make firewood accessible to the local residents. Logs will be cut into short lengths for easy handling and removal by residents.

Tree limbs will be burned on site by professional firefighters. Each burn pile is plumbed to a charged water source. Smoke will be present. Each burn pile is fully extinguished at the end of each day. Burn piles will be seeded with native grass to limit the spread of invasive plants and to re-vegetate the site.

- 1** The interior of the park is dense black spruce. Removal of the dead standing and downed trees will reduce fire behavior substantially because of the volume of dead material.
- 2** The perimeter of the park consists mostly of white and black spruce with some hardwoods. Sections have been treated in the past. Removal of dead trees and a moderate thinning combined with pruning the residual healthy trees will serve to reduce fire behavior adjacent to the homes and roadway.
- 3** Log piles will be moved by a small excavator to make the firewood accessible to local residents.

Are you Firewise?

- ***Prune spruce trees in fall***
- ***Burn permits available on-line at <http://afd.muni.org>***
- ***Firewise information at www.muni.org/fire***
- ***Wildfire programming on Municipal Cable Channel 10***
- ***More at www.afdfireinfo.com***

Prepare your home now for the 2007 fire season

Anchorage Fire Department – Wildfire Mitigation Office

wildfire@muni.org

267-4980