

A Concerning Fire in Detroit

On 5-6-21 there was a concerning fire in Detroit. This fire started as a common slash burn of two piles of debris, but quickly got out of hand due to the high winds coming in off of the lake and because the fire was left unattended. Please be advised that, regardless of observed wet weather conditions, due to the abundance of dead combustible materials, and the fact that we are experiencing the driest Spring on record, it is not acceptable to leave a burn of any size unattended at any time. Please follow these procedures for all debris burning:

- Make certain that all debris piles are sized for a manageable fire.
- Please notify the City of your intent so that we can put out notice via social media and our web page.
- Observe that the intended burn pile is far enough from other combustible material that it is not likely for the fire to spread.
- Verify that the current fire conditions allow burning on the day you are planning to ignite your debris piles.
- Notify the Idahna/Detroit Fire Department of your intent to burn, the location of the intended burn and the precautions you are planning on taking. Their phone number is (503) 854-3540.
- Have water on site to control the burn.
- NEVER LEAVE A BURN PILE UNATTENDED UNTIL IT IS COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED.
- If the burn begins to get out of hand, call 911 immediately and request support.

Thank you so much for working to keep the community and each other safe from future fires. The first step for protecting each other starts with personal responsibility and thoughtfully attending to potential hazards. For any additional information, please contact the City of Detroit at Detroit@wvi.com or **(503) 854-3496**.

Thank you!

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