Wildland Firefighting and Controlled Fire

Wildland Firefighting and Controlled Fire is a one-credit course designed to give students a working knowledge of wildland firefighting and the use of controlled fires on forest lands. Topics include firefighting terminology, topography, fuel types, external influences, personal protective equipment, deployment procedures, firefighting tools and equipment, suppression tactics, and controlled burning.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Content Standards

1. Students will define the basic terminology of wildland firefighting, identify the parts of a wildfire, identify the elements of the fire triangle and describe the three methods of heat transfer.
2. Students will list the basic characteristics of topography and describe how they affect wildland fire behavior.
3. Students will identify the basic fuel types and the characteristics that influence the behavior of fire.
4. Students will describe the effects of basic weather factors (temperature, relative humidity, precipitation, wind) on fire behavior, describe critical fire weather conditions and list the different types of fire weather forecasts and outlooks.
5. Students will identify indications that fire behavior may be increasing, describe combined influences that may cause extreme fire behavior and safety concerns, and list seven fire environment factors to be aware of when monitoring fire behavior.
6. Students will explain the importance of proper use and maintenance of their assigned Personal Protective Equipment, develop a list of personal gear needed and explain the firefighter’s accountability for personal and agency property.
7. Students will explain the firefighter’s chain of command and describe the general responsibilities of each section in the Incident Command System.
8. Students will describe watch out situation and explain the Standard Firefighting Orders.
9. Students will explain how Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes and Safety zones are related to the Standard Firefighting Orders.
10. Students will demonstrate the correct deployment procedures for the fire shelter.
11. Students will construct a minimum of 25 feet of fire break using various standard firefighting hand tools.
12. Students will demonstrate proper use of the drip torch.
13. Students will extinguish a fire using a back pack pump.
14. Students will demonstrate the basis of wild land fire suppression.
15. Students will demonstrate fire line patrolling procedures.
16. Students will demonstrate fire mop-up procedures.
17. Students will explain the purposes and benefits of prescribed burning.
18. Students will describe and demonstrate prescribed burning firing methods.
19. Students will evaluate the results of a prescribed burn.