



**Glass Mine Fire Information
Chattahoochee National Forest
November 12, 2001 (0800 hours)**



Fire Name: Glass Mine Fire

Location: Eight Miles North of Dahlonega along Highway 60

Special Notice: Highway 60 is open to local traffic **ONLY** between Suches and Dahlonega

Acres Burned: 700

- Firefighters are battling a 700 acre blaze on National Forest and private land in Lumpkin County, Georgia. The fire, known as the Glass Mine Fire, started as two separate fires on Saturday, November 10th at approximately 2:00 p.m. The fires quickly burned together to create one large fire on the Chattahoochee National Forest. There is currently no estimate for when the fire will be contained. Crews are working to contain the blaze using bulldozers, handlines and natural fire breaks such as roads or streams.
- The cause of the fire is believed to be human-caused. An investigation is continuing into the cause of the blaze.
- More than 100 firefighters and support personnel are currently working on the Glass Mine fire with additional crews expected to arrive on November 12th. Twenty person fire-fighting crews from New Mexico, California, and Arizona are currently working along with Georgia personnel on the fire. Partners in the fire suppression effort are the Georgia Forestry Commission, the U.S. Forest Service, the Lumpkin and Union County Volunteer Fire Departments, Georgia State Patrol, American Red Cross, and Georgia DOT.
- The crews from the Forest Service are the Sequoia #6 crew and the Big Bear crew both from California. Crews from the Bureau of Indian Affairs are the Fort Apache crew from Arizona, and the Mescalero Crew, the Zuni 56 crew and the Black Mesa crew each from New Mexico. Four additional 20-person fire-fighting crews are expected to arrive in Georgia on Monday, November 12th to aide in the fire-fighting effort.
- Fire managers stress that the potential for wildfire remains extremely high. Very low humidity, mild temperatures and moderate winds are predicted. The long-range weather forecast does not predict sufficient moisture to reduce the wildfire threat in North Georgia this week.
- Until current fire danger eases, homeowners should take extra precautions with fire. Burning debris is a major cause of wildfire. Any burning, especially on windy days, should be postponed.
- For current information about the fire situation, check out the Forest Service website at www.fs.fed.us/conf/ or call the U.S. Forest Service Fire Information Office at (770) 297-3061.

Losses due to wildfire can be minimized if homeowners take the time to employ simple safety measures. By observing the precautions described below, you can reduce the risk of losing your home to wildfire.

1. Dispose of stove or fireplace ashes and charcoal briquets only after soaking them in a metal pail of water for 24 hours.
2. Store gasoline in an approved safety can away from occupied buildings.
3. LPG tanks should be far enough away from buildings for valves to be shut off in case of fire. Keep area clear of flammable vegetation.
4. All combustibles such as firewood, picnic tables, boats, etc. should be kept away from structures.
5. Garden hose should be connected to outlet.
6. Clean roof surfaces and gutters regularly to avoid accumulation of flammable materials.
7. Remove portions of any tree extending within 10 feet of the flue opening of any stove or chimney.
8. Maintain a screen constructed of non-flammable material over the flue opening of every chimney or stovepipe. Mesh openings of the screen should not exceed ½ inch.
9. Shrubs should be spaced at least 15 feet apart.
10. Remove branches from trees to a height of 15 feet.
11. A fuel break should be maintained around all structures.
12. Have fire tools handy such as: ladder long enough to reach the roof, shovel, rake, and bucket for water.
13. Each home should have at least 2 different entrance and exit routes.
14. Names of roads should be indicated at all intersections.
15. Names and addresses of occupants should be posted at driveway entrance.
16. All roads and driveways should be at least 16 feet in width.

