



3C's of Wildfire

Causes of wildfire

Accidental and recklessness

- A cigarette butt tossed from a passing car.
- Unsupervised campfires, stoves and picnic BBQ's.
- Uncontrolled or unsupervised garden bonfire.
- Sparks from machinery or power lines that have fallen from the utility pole and made contact with the ground.



Natural

- Lightning strikes interacting with other environmental factors resulting in ignition of combustible materials.
- Extreme heat causing spontaneous combustion of vegetation.
- Erupting volcanos that spew hot lava (molten rock) and ash, whose high temperatures can ignite material in their path.



Deliberate - Arson

- Fires lit for attention when bored.
- Fires lit to express feelings of anger, frustration or emotional distress.
- Fires lit to damage property as revenge.
- Curiosity about the process of fire lighting.



Consequences of wildfire

Environmental

- Inflicts injury or death to wildlife and livestock.
- Habitat loss – less food and shelter for wildlife.
- Wildfire releases substances such as CO₂ and CO into the atmosphere.
- Wildfire causes air pollution which impacts human health.
- Wildfire removes natural flood defences such as trees and healthy soils.

Economic

- Managing and extinguishing a wildfire is costly.
- Transport, water supplies, communication and power networks, can be disrupted or lost.
- Impacts on local tourism and business if people cannot access or avoid the area.
- Reduction of property prices and potential for growth in an area.

Social

- Can endanger life.
- Effects of wildfire can increase health problems.
- Wildfire can impact on a community's sense of well-being.
- Can encourage crime and anti-social behaviour.



Combating wildfire

Legal

- Fire crime is dealt with by the Wales Fire and Rescue Service and the Police.
- Anyone caught deliberately starting a wildfire will face prosecution and a criminal record.
- Arson is discouraged through a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

Learning and awareness

- Community initiatives that aim to empower people to take responsibility for their local environment. For example, the Healthy Hillides project.
- Campaigns and social media posts on how to safely use and extinguish campfires and picnic BBQ's.
- Education programs that help everyone to understand the impacts of wildfires and how to keep themselves safe.

Land management

- Farmers and landowners work to manage landscapes so they are less prone to blazes that burn out of control.
- Manage our natural environment to reduce potential fuel, such as bracken, by using grazing animals, machinery or controlled burns.
- Farmers and land managers should inform the Wales Fire and Rescue Service before lighting any controlled burns.



Challenge Cards



Can you think of any other causes of wildfire?

Challenge:

- Your challenge is to be creative and use natural materials to make a model showing some of the causes of wildfire. Or you can create and act out a role play scene.
- You could use a scenario such as wildfire near your local community, on farmland or local woodland to help set the scene.
- Use the suggestions on the cards you have already collected and add any other ideas you can think of.



Can you think of any other consequences of wildfire?

Challenge:

- Your challenge is to be creative and use natural materials to make a model showing some of the consequences of wildfire. Or you can create and act out a role play scene.
- You could use a scenario such as wildfire near your local community, on farmland or local woodland to help set the scene.
- Use the suggestions on the cards you have already collected and add any other ideas you can think of.





Can you think of any other ways of combating wildfire?

Challenge:

- Your challenge is to be creative and use natural materials to make a model showing some of the ways of combating wildfire. Or you can create and act out a role play scene.
- You could use a scenario such as wildfire near your local community, on farmland or local woodland to help set the scene.
- Use the suggestions on the cards you have already collected and add any other ideas you can think of.



Title Cards

Causes



Consequences



Combating

