

WELCOME!

Community Meeting on Risk Reduction

October 7, 2025



Agenda

- Introductions
- Quick Summary of Concerns
- General Information Slides
- Panel Comments
- Public's Q & A of Panel and RFRD
- Resources List
- Wrapup



Introductions

- RFRD Chief Bruce Tupper
- Brad McCurtain, Cape homeowner
- John Facella, RFRD Public Education, Fire Prevention
- Tonight's Panel (Chief Tupper)



Panelists

- Maine Forest Service Ranger Specialist Kent Nelson
- Portland Water, Nate Whalen
- CCEMA Michael Durkin
- Deputy Chief Lee O'Connor
- RFRD PIO Scott Doyle
- Select Board Chair Denis Morse
- Raymond EMA Cliff Small
- CMP Fred LaMontagne



Community Hazard Planning Process

- Identify Possible Hazards
- Estimate Probability of Occurance
- Prioritize Planning on Hazards
- Determine & Implement Prevention Actions
- Determine & Implement Mitigation Actions
- Write and Distribute Plans



Possible Hazards in Raymond

1. Active Shooter
2. Cyberattack
3. Earthquake
4. Extreme Heat
5. Personal Financial
6. Flood
7. Hurricane
8. Nuclear
9. Pandemics
10. Power Outage
11. Thunderstorms,
Lightning, Hail
12. Tornado
13. Wildfire
14. Winter Storm

Note: From FEMA's "Are Your Ready" booklet



Our Focus Tonight

- Too Many Hazards to Discuss in one Session
 - Future Sessions will Cover Other Hazards
- We will Focus On:
 - Wildfires
 - The Cape Road (because of only one road in and out)



Terms

- **WILDLAND FIRE:** The unplanned , uncontrolled fire burning in vegetative fuels. Include crops, leaves, fields , trees
- **INTERFACE FIRE:** That which involves a wild land and residential/ commercial area.



May 2024:
Little Sebago Lake



Are Maine Wildfires a New Thing?? 1947



Wildfires & The Cape Road

- Decision: Self Evacuate or Shelter or in place?
- Additional factors which might be present:
 - Road blockage because of accident
 - Wind storm, trees/poles down
 - Prolonged power outage
- Most resolve to: Single Cape Road exit is blocked



RFRD Resources

- 3-5 members/shift + call crews
- 2 ambulances, 2 tankers, 2 engines, 1 ladder (future), 2 service trucks
- If there is an area-wide disaster, we will be busy elsewhere in town
- Mutual Aid from other FDs
 - Might also be busy with own emergencies
 - Except for Windham, more limited resources & staff than RFRD



RFRD vs Citizens

- Citizens
 - Scores of households
 - Many vehicles, which will cause congestion - worse if Frye Island is inhabited
 - Multiple 'leaders' unless some ad-hoc organization is formed
 - Mostly untrained, unequipped
 - Must self-prioritize, self-resource



Recent Wildfires

Recent Raymond Wildfires

- May 2024: fire on Little Sebago Lake
 - 3 homes & 1 boathouse destroyed
 - 3 cars & 1 boat destroyed
 - 2 acres of woods burned
 - 11 Fire Departments responded
 - 2 firefighters were taken to hospital with minor injuries
 - The fire re-ignited the next day
- Contributing causes
 - Pine needles and twigs = rapid fire spread
 - Propane tank caught fire



Images from News Center Maine



Recent Raymond Wildfires

- 2023:
 - 7 acres off of Spiller Hill Rd
 - Betty's Neck
- 2021:
 - Notched Pond, 4 buildings
 - 30 acres in Naples
- 2018:
 - North Raymond Rd.
 - 300 acres in Kennebunk
- 2017:
 - Betty's Neck
 - Thomas Pond fire, multiple buildings
- 2014: Panther Pond Pines Rd.



Images from WGME,
Portland Press Herald



Recent Raymond



Notched Pine
2021



Thomas Pond
2017



Evergreen



2006 Madison Maine

Note –
home is
steaming
from radiated
heat



Fire origin is barn

Note woods on fire, in close
proximity to both barn and
house



Other Wildland Fires



NH 2017



Auburn ME 2011



Kennebunk ME



Prevention

What You Can Do

- 3 levels of clearing: 0 – 5 ft, 5 - 30, 30 - 100 around your home of dead branches, duff, etc.
 - In Butte County CA, 89% of the homes that had defensible space survived the Park wildfires
- Remove 'ladder' fuels
- Remove pine trees that are close to homes, but observe Shoreland rules (work with COE)
- Put 1/8" or less metal mesh over attic and under eave vents to prevent embers from entering



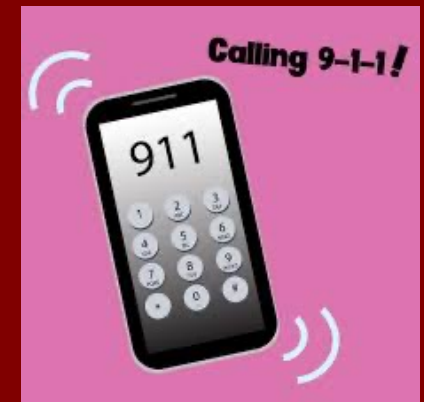
What You Can Do

- Have a water source such as rain barrels, garden hoses, buckets
- If possible, have an emergency power generator
- Store some canned food & water, a basic first aid kit, and a “Go Bag”
- Have a phone list of neighbors, family
 - Consider traveling with others to reduce traffic load
- Have some trained traffic wardens with vests, flashlights, and a plan to direct traffic



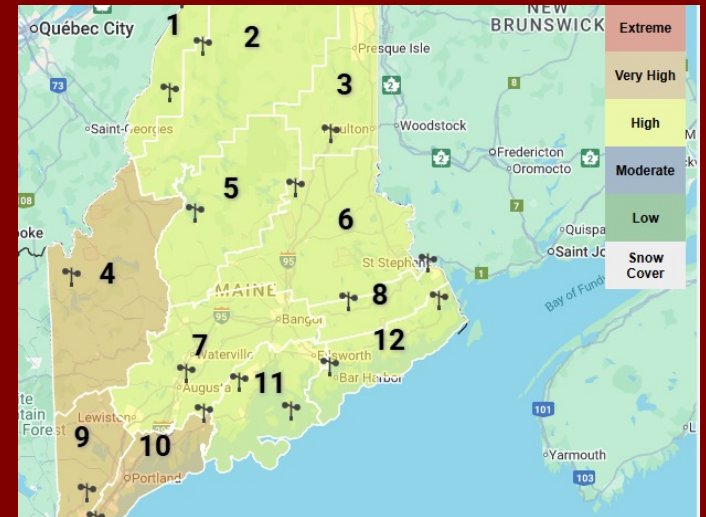
What You Can Do

- Make your drive way allow for both egress & ingress. Have pull offs if needed to pass fire apparatus.
- Get an online permit for burning over 3' x 3' brush, campfires:
<https://apps1.web.maine.gov/burnpermit/public/index.html>
- Even small campfires may be banned during high fire danger – check at RFRD station 655-1187
- Emergency calling: For ANY Emergency (fire, fuel leak, EMS, boat problem, etc.) ALWAYS dial 9-1-1
 - NEVER call any other number for an emergency, because ONLY 9-1-1 is staffed and answered 24 x 7 x 365!
 - Using other numbers will result in delays or no-response!!



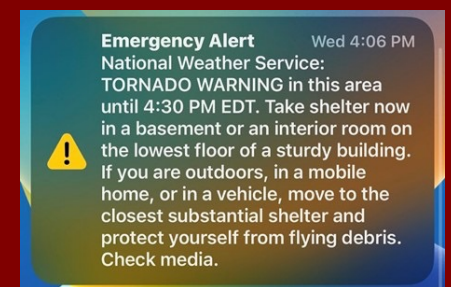
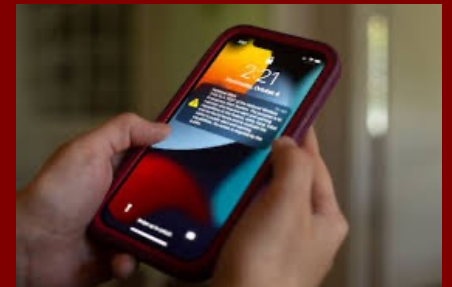
Stay Informed

- Fire Class Day Ratings
 - 12 Zones; Raymond area is Zone 9
 - Our weather station is in Lyman
 - Operational late March to late November
 - www.maine-fireweather.org/index.php
- Weather
 - Get a NOAA weather radio with alert tones and battery backup (Midland and others, \$50 to \$70)



Stay Informed

- Government Warnngs
 - Cumberland County, Code Red: cell phone app:
<https://www.cumberlandmaine.com/police-department/pages/codered>
 - Maine Citizen Alerts: (can opt out)
<https://www.maine.gov/portal/CAS/>
 - Federal IPAWS emergency alerts: These wireless alerts are on by default. You can turn off all but the presidential alerts.
 - Local TV & radio stations: WMTW Ch 8, WGME ch 13 (Raymond tower), WCSH Ch 6, and others



Panel Comments

Q & A

- Discuss the impacts of a fire in terms of the FD's Perspective
- Discuss The impacts of a fire in terms of the Public's Perspective
- Create a list of concerns and needs



Preparedness Resources

- FEMA “Are You Ready?”, ready.gov, P-2064, Catalog # 17219-1. Comprehensive 24 page booklet covering 18 disaster types and how citizens can prepare. Downloadable at <https://www.ready.gov/publications>
- Ready.gov Very extensive resources with checklists, booklets, special scenarios like seniors and those with disabilities, teacher guides, multiple languages, etc.
- FEMA P-522 / 08172-6 “Ready...Set...Prepare!”
- A Disaster Preparedness Activity Book (age 4-7)
- FEMA P-523 / 08172-5 “Ready...Set...Prepare!”
- A Disaster Preparedness Activity Book (age 8-11)
- Very extensive list of FEMA publications:
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GOVPUB-HS5_100-PURL-gpo121849/pdf/GOVPUB-HS5_100-PURL-gpo121849.pdf



Preparedness Resources

- FireWise Community (NFPA):
<https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/wildfire/firewise-usa> Community program to reduce wildfire risks. Many resources.
- From Other States or Entities:
 - Insurance Services Institute: <https://ibhs.org/risk-research/living-with-wildfire/>
 - CA: <https://bereadybutte.com/>



RECAP

- Lessons learned
- Things missed?
- Next Meeting
 - When
 - Next Hazard Topic
- Thank you!

