

DEAR CHIWAUKEE NEIGHBORS

This spring the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is planning on conducting controlled burns on state land in the Carol Beach Subdivision (late March- April). The burns are intended to restore and maintain this rare prairie community. Individual burns can take approximately 1-3 hours to complete, depending on the size and complexity of the unit. Several units can be burned in one day; however, the number of good burning days is dependent on weather conditions. Department staff will notify landowners near burn units several days in advance of the burn day. This handout will be available at the village hall as well.

Why burn the prairie?

Fire is a key component of a healthy prairie ecosystem. Fires have always played a large part in the prairies life cycle and once pioneer settlers began suppressing these fires the prairies began to disappear. Without periodic fires, these areas slowly turn into scrubby, woody fields. As the woody vegetation thickens, it shades out and eliminates native prairie plants. This conversion has resulted in the decline or disappearance of many prairie dependent plants and animals.

HOMEOWNER TIPS FOR DEALING WITH SMOKE:

- 1) Close all your windows the day of a burn.
- 2) Do not hang laundry out the day of a burn.

DNR crews participating on the burns are well trained and well equipped. All burning staff has successfully completed the Federal Wildland Fire Fighting Training course. This course covered the basics of fire behavior, controlled burning, fire equipment and fighting wildland fires. Crews use various pieces of equipment on the burns. Equipment includes hand tools, safety items and vehicles and ATVs with water tanks, pumps and hose layouts.

2010 BURN LOCATIONS:

Unit 2 (blocks 12&17), Unit 4 (blocks 34&41), Unit 5 (blocks 47,49,50 & 53),
Unit 7 (blocks 8, 9,10,&11)

If you have any questions please contact one of the following:

- Wildlife Biologist Marty Johnson at 262-884-2391
Wildlife Tech. Doug Robinson at 262-989-3955.

(Map on Reverse Side)

Lake Michigan



--- Study area boundary

