

What is the cost of the workshop?

Participants pay a materials fee of \$20. Cost of credit varies, depending on the region, but in some cases the Division of Forestry is able to cover the cost of credit for all participants.

Sponsoring school districts are expected to assist with getting the word out to teachers about the workshop, and provide classroom space, but are not liable for any other workshop costs.



How do we get a Fire in Alaska workshop in our region?

Contact Lilly Goodman-Allwright at Alaskainsights@mtaonline.net.

Funding for this project is available through a partnership with the USDA Forest Service

What workshop participants have said:

“This course will be useful for a science teacher because it puts the fire curriculum into language and activities which are accessible to students.....Thank you for offering this course.”

“This course was an excellent reminder of the power of hands-on science”

“These are useful lessons that can be used at all grade levels, ready to use, easy and fit in with all areas of study”.

“Very hands on, instructor is extremely knowledgeable and communicates the curriculum very well, a very broad range of activities”.

“The things we learned in this class can be applied to science in many many ways”.

“We got to do do do!”

“This will go well as supplemental work doing social studies projects about the community and state”.

“Can incorporate into reading and writing instruction, which will help to give curriculum to students that’s high interest”.

“Lots of information can be used personally and or with students”.

“I loved the lesson plan ideas, the Alaska content and place-based learning”.

“It will be useful to teach my kids how to keep their homes fire safe. Also to let them learn that all fire is not bad for a forest’s health. All people need to take this class”.

FIRE in Alaska!

Sponsored by the Alaska Division of Forestry

What are *FIRE in Alaska!* educator Workshops?

Fire in Alaska! workshops are one-credit courses that introduce interdisciplinary content and activities for teaching students about wildland fire ecology, behavior, and management, and how to make our homes “Fire wise” .

Workshops are highly interactive, hands-on, and include lesson modeling, teaching strategies, and opportunities for exchanging ideas.





What will workshop participants come away with?

Workshop participants will leave with multidisciplinary knowledge and approaches to teaching about wildland fire in Alaska. Participants will also learn innovative ideas and tools for interacting with students, including hands-on fire labs, interactive activities, storytelling and student-initiated inquiry.

Participants also receive their own copy of the *FIRE in Alaska!* curriculum guide, and access to a Fire Trunk that includes materials and resources for teaching lessons from the curriculum.

What is the curriculum guide?

The *FIRE in Alaska!* curriculum guide contains background content and 36 interactive activities for engaging youth in the exciting interdisciplinary subject of wildfire. The *Fire in Alaska!* curriculum guide, a combination of volumes produced by both the USFW and the USDA Forest Service, was produced by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

All activities in the curriculum were correlated to Alaska State Content Standards in 2007 and standards are referenced during the workshop where appropriate.

Who should take a *Fire in Alaska!* workshop?

4-12th grade science teachers, as well as social science, health, and even language arts teachers benefit from the curriculum, because FIRE is a highly engaging, and broad subject that spans a diverse array of disciplines.

Homeschool teachers, scout and community leaders, and anyone interested in wildfire is also welcome to participate in the workshop.

What's in a *Fire in Alaska!* workshop?

The action-packed one-credit course covers:

- Wildland fire ecology including dendrochronology, identifying trees and dichotomous keys, effects of fires on the ecosystem, and various types of fires and succession.
- Wildland fire behavior including how a fire burns, the chemistry and physics of fire, effects of topography and weather, the fire triangle, and how various fuels burn and why.
- Wildland fire management including some of the politics associated with fire suppression, and why fires happen in Alaska.
- Living in a wildland urban interface, including Fire Wise concepts.

When possible, participants attend a field trip to assess neighborhood homes. We also conduct fire labs and experience scientific inquiry in action!



Who sponsors and who instructs the workshop?

Fire in Alaska! workshops are sponsored by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, usually in cooperation with the regional school district, and the University of Alaska Anchorage, or regional UAA branch.

The Division of Forestry has entered into an agreement with the Alaska Natural Resources and Outdoor Education Association to administer the FIRE in Alaska program through Alaska Insights.

Workshops are instructed by Lilly Goodman-Allwright, who has an MS in Ecology, and 20 years of experience in the fields of environmental and outdoor education. She has been teaching *FIRE in Alaska!* throughout the state since 2003.

