

Hazard ALERT

Hazard Summary

Forest Fires/Dump Fires

Smoke from a forest or dump fire can affect the surrounding community. It may contain a mixture of chemicals and fine particles that endanger human health. The types and amount of particles and chemicals in the smoke varies depending on what is burning, and the burn temperature. The health effects from the smoke may affect some people in the workplace more than others. People with heart or lung conditions, infants, young children, and the elderly are particularly at risk.

Hazard Location:

Wooded Areas, Landfills and Surrounding Communities

Safe Work Practices:

To reduce exposure to smoke in the workplace, workers should stay indoors as much as possible. Close doors and windows, and turn off all air exchangers. If you have to go outside, limit physical activity.

Symptoms to watch out for include wheezing, breathing difficulty, tightness in the chest, light headedness, and dizziness. Smoke may also irritate eyes, nose, and throat. Seek medical attention if you develop symptoms that you cannot manage or persist.

You have the right to refuse work if the level of smoke compromises your safety in the workplace. Contact the WSCC for more details.



We commit to safety. For more information on workplace health and safety, call us toll-free or visit our website.