

KNOW BEFORE YOU MOW TO PREVENT FIRES

USE PROPER EQUIPMENT AND PROTOCOLS TO MAINTAIN WEEDS AND DRY GRASSES



Equipment-caused fires are one of the top three causes of wildfires in Sonoma County. In many cases, improper equipment was used to cut dry grasses in open fields. **Do not use a residential lawnmower to mow tall grass.**



Fire officials recommend that weed abatement and mowing of seasonal grasses **occur before 10 a.m. with the proper equipment**, and should be avoided altogether during excessively dry, hot, and windy days.

DO YOUR PART TO AVOID SPARKING A WILDFIRE:

- Remove rocks in the area before operating any equipment – a rock hidden in grass or weeds may spark a fire when struck by a metal blade.
- Ensure spark arresters are in place on all portable gasoline-powered equipment including tractors, chain saws, weed eaters, mowers, brush cutters, etc.
- Keep the exhaust system, spark arresters, and mower in proper working order and free of carbon buildup.
- Keep the engine free of oil and dust and keep the mower free of flammable materials.
- Have a round-point shovel, cell phone to call 9-1-1, a back-pump water-type fire extinguisher, or water supply on hand and ready to use.
- Review One less Spark – One Less Wildfire educational information on ReadyForWildfire.org

A SAFETY REMINDER FROM

