

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service – Rocky Mountain Research Station



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TEACHING ABOUT FIRE MADE EASIER BY EDUCATIONAL TRUNK

Missoula, MT, November 25, 2002—Teachers of grades 1 through 10, home-school teachers, and youth leaders can take a 2-1/2-day workshop that will enable them to more readily teach units about wildfire in the forests of Montana.

Using the “Fireworks” trunk and curriculum, teachers can conduct hands-on lessons about the chemistry and physics of fire, how wildfires behave in the outdoors, and the ecological role fire plays in forests and grasslands.

The trunk includes pine needles, sections of real trees, videos, books, materials for learning activities, and posters and other graphics. The materials in the trunk support the accompanying set of lessons.

The workshop, put on by Forest Service fire experts, will be held February 19-21, in Missoula. Teachers can arrange for professional development credit for the training, from either the Office of Public Instruction or the University of Montana.

For more information and to enroll in the workshop, contact: Nancy McMurray at 406- 329-4803 or at nmcmurray@fs.fed.us, Jane Kapler Smith at 406- 683-4805 or jsmith09@fs.fed.us.

The trunk is available for loan in Kalispell from Teresa Wenum at the Flathead National Forest Supervisor’s Office (telephone 758-5218). You can also find out more about the trunk at the following website: <http://www.firelab.org/fep/research/fireworks/fireworks.htm>.

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