



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior

Rocky Mountain National Park

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## Rocky Mountain National Park Fire Management

October 2004



### Celebrating National Fire Prevention Week

Fire management staff from Rocky Mountain National Park participated in several local events to help celebrate National Fire Prevention Week. An interagency team comprised of National Park Service, U. S. Forest Service and Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department personnel, distributed FireWise educational materials at the Elkfest weekend festival in Estes Park on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The children enjoyed the free educational materials and trinkets, while local citizens took advantage of the FireWise information.

Park staff also accepted an invitation to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fire Prevention Open House at the Grand Lake Fire Station on October 6th. In addition to staffing the park fire information display, a \$4,400 Rural Fire Assistance Grant was also formally presented to the Grand Lake Fire Protection District. The fire department volunteers staffed several home safety demonstration stations and awarded participants with smoke detectors and fire extinguishers, courtesy of a FEMA grant. Both Smokey Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog made popular guest appearances.

National Fire Prevention Week is sponsored annually each October by the National Fire Protection Association to commemorate two fire incidents that occurred 133 years ago. The first and most famous involved Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicking over a lantern in a barn and starting the Great Chicago Fire. Lesser known, but much more deadly and destructive was the Peshtigo Fire in Wisconsin, which also started on October 8, 1871. To learn more about National Fire Prevention Week check <http://www.nfpa.org/FPW>.



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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.