

Summary

Fire Watch Volunteers help to reduce wildfire ignitions by creating a highly visible presence in wildfire prone areas during extreme weather events. They also provide education to the public on wildfire dangers. Fire Watch volunteers are deployed at pre-determined urban-wildland interfaces throughout Orange County when Red Flag conditions exist.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Display Fire Watch identification at all times (uniform shirt, vest, ID badge, vehicle placard).
- Sit or walk perimeters of high fire risk areas to act as visual deterrents.
- Provide early detection and notification for fire or suspicious activities to emergency services
- Serve as public education ambassadors for fire safety and awareness.

Eligibility

- Complete all requirements as an OC Parks Volunteer.
- Complete Fire Watch training (4 hours).
- Provide own transportation to the Fire Watch post, and remain with vehicle during entire shift.
- Ability to assess suspicious activity or dangerous situations and make notifications without supervision.
- Ability to interact with the public.

Training Path

1. Complete OC Parks Volunteer training program.
 - a. Program Orientation Training
 - b. Background check
 - c. CPR and First Aid Certification
2. Complete Fire Watch training (4 hours).

Typical Schedule

- Two (2) hour shifts during Red Flag conditions
 - Set when high temperature, high wind and low humidity conditions exist.
 - Number of annual deployments can vary with seasonal weather patterns.
- Fire Watch volunteers self-schedule for shifts online after completing Fire Watch Training.
- Outreach opportunities are available throughout the year at public events.

For More Information

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