

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Forest Protection, Region 7

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Joe Martens
Commissioner

To: County Fire Coordinators, DEC Region 7

From: Captain Dave Brooks

Date: January 4, 2012

Subject: Notice of on-line federal wildfire course sponsorship

To All,

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group has developed on-line and CD versions of basic federal wildland fire courses S-130 and S-190. The on-line version is free and the CD version of each course costs 95 cents plus S&H. Successful completion of these courses is required to become qualified as a wildland firefighter in the federal system. These two courses formed the basis for our development of the New York State "Basic Wildland Fire Suppression Course" several years ago.

The courses are estimated to take 12-36 hours (for S-130) and 6-8 hours (for S-190) respectively. Trainees taking S-130 during this sponsorship period will be required to attend a six hour field training day at the DEC office in Sherburne, NY to complete Module 13 of the S-130 course and obtain final certification. NYS Forest Rangers are hopeful these self-paced, on-line and CD versions will allow interested firefighters better opportunities to take this training. Previously, these courses were only offered in a classroom setting over several evening and weekend training sessions. **We strongly encourage trainees to buy the CD version of these courses as we have experienced technical difficulties with the on-line versions in the past that are beyond our control.**

The deadline date for completing the on-line or CD portion of these courses with NYS Forest Ranger sponsorship is March 23, 2012. Up to 30 trainees will be sponsored to take this training during this period. Upon completion of the on-line/CD course work, firefighter trainees will be required to participate in the final field training module of S-130 (Module 13) at the DEC office in Sherburne, NY. The field training will be conducted on Saturday, March 24, 2012 and will be approximately six hours in duration. The exact time and location of the field training will be determined by the course administrator. Participants who successfully complete all course and field training on March 24th, and desire to meet the federal requirements for wildland firefighter or for working on prescribed fire on federal lands will be allowed to attend the work capacity test in Sherburne on March 29th or March 31st. The work capacity tests are required annually to qualify as a federal wildland firefighter, or to work on prescribed burns on federal lands, but are not required to complete the courses.

Please pass this information on to the Fire Chief's and other interested parties in your county.

Please contact the course administrator listed below before enrolling in an on-line course or purchasing the CD version of these courses. The course administrators for the 2012 sponsorship of these courses are:

Scott Jackson, NYS Forest Ranger
Altmar, NY
Phone: (315) 625-7261
E-mail: srjackso@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Jeremy Oldroyd
Binghamton, NY
Phone: (607) 648-6247
E-mail: jmoldroy@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For links to access these courses and obtain more information go to:
<http://training.nwcg.gov/courses/130190faq.html>

For more information on the work capacity test go to;
http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/wct/wct_index.html

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(e-mail) cc:

Broome County – Brett Chellis
Cayuga County – Larry Dygert
Cayuga County – Brian Dahl
Chenango County – Matthew Beckwith
Cortland County – Bob Duell
Madison County – Joseph DeFrancisco
Onondaga County – Joseph Rinefierd
Oswego County – Don Forbes
Tioga County - John V. Scott
Tompkins County - Lee Shurtleff