

## **The Physics of Forest Fires And How We Can Help Those who are affected by the Forest Fires?**

We can help forest fires by helping our community and monitoring our actions that cause climate change. These two things correlate hand in hand as it can prevent wildfires and bring relief to the victims of existing fires. In a time of need, we believe that communities can help each other by being there for their neighbors. As Calistoga was evacuated away from the fires, American Canyon decided to make its high school a designated evacuation center for those who needed it. We believe that neighboring towns must be there to support its communities to ultimately overcome disasters. Within the time of the forest fires, it was an extremely devastating time for all the towns in Napa County; had it been just a "one man for itself" mindset, none of us would have ever made any progress on community relief. It is amazing what a helping community can do for others, because it strengthens the bond between towns and it encourages people to engage in their neighborhood. When our community is there for one, the same community will be there for us.

Furthermore, people can best help their community by doing a few things that will continue the community's progress after a disaster. You can donate goods or money to legitimate organizations like the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, or specific organizations near your community. Many can also donate blood to help those after a disaster who may be injured. Volunteering is a great activity to partake in like search and rescue, clean-up and reconstruction, support local shelters, etc.. Spreading helpful information through social media and direct communication can educate and help the community during a time of need. Lastly, after the disaster, you can start planning for a similar disaster and set up a system for yourself or somebody you know.

Aside from disaster relief, these fires can be prevented by keeping the planet clean. Forest fires and climate change could possibly be correlated with each other. The amount of, in this case, lack of precipitation that California experiences may be connected to climate change and global warming. Without rain in California, the hot and humid air mixed with the high winds can be a mixture of forest fires/accidental forest fires. Due to the lack of moisture, California can easily be a victim of forest fires because the potential of it occurring increases as the world begins to get warmer and warmer. These effects obviously took many years to come into effect, and we cannot simply reverse the causes of climate change. However, to have change come into slow effect we must take care of our planet more often. Our actions and decisions can cause our planet a huge deal of disasters, and all of this can correlate to wildfires/forest fires.

With all the recent fires going on around both Napa and Solano counties there has been an increase of good people donation their time to help those in need. Whether it be volunteering time at local shelter for those in need, to helping scientist provide the public with useful information. Such organization are Kiwanis, Circle K International, Key Club International, or simply VolunteerMatch (Which are all nonprofit organizations) Other ways to help out the community is to donate food and other commodities to the shelter who are asking for them. An alternative to this would be donating legitimate organization such as The American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, or the International Committee of the Red Cross.

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