



Quaker Run Fire

Daily Update for Monday, November 13, 2023

Contact Information	Statistics	Resources
Email: 2023_QuakerRun@firenet.gov Phone: (540) 613-1809 (8 a.m. – 8 p.m.) Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ForestryVA InciWeb: https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/vavas-2023-quaker-run-fire	Acres: 3,937 (increase in acres due to more accurate mapping of containment lines) Containment: 41% Location: 970 Quaker Run Road, Syria, VA 22727 Date of Origin: October 24, 2023 Cause: Undetermined Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0	Crews: 9 Helicopters: 2 Engines: 7 Dozers: 6 Personnel: 206

Fire Activity

Yesterday, firefighters spent much of the day blowing leaves off containment lines and extinguishing burning material further into the fire's interior. They also worked on downed heavy fuels like large logs and felled trees, breaking them apart to ensure all heat was extinguished. It is important that any smoldering material near firelines is mopped up and that smoking dead trees are felled to reduce the likelihood of embers crossing lines on windy days. Fire behavior was minimal—no open flames or active fire spread were observed. A few minor and isolated smokes were visible but were well within containment lines.

A video of firefighters working on a downed log is available at <https://bit.ly/FFMoppingUpFelledLog>.

Ahead of tonight's possible wind event, firefighters will continue the critical work of breaking apart debris piles and downed trees, blowing containment lines free of leaves, and wetting down the edge of the fire, especially along the northern edge in the area firefighters call the "horseshoe." They will continue to test the pumps and sprinklers at Camp Hoover, also known as the Historic Rapidan Camp—National Park Service, as well as monitor and patrol the Rapidan Family Camp and homes in and around Syria. Improving containment lines today is crucial as a cold front moves into the area this afternoon.

Weather

A cold start again this morning under mostly clear skies. A stray cloud is possible as a very dry air mass starts to push into the region. High temperatures will be in the mid-50s on the ridges and upper 50s and 60s in the valleys with humidity ranging from 40 to 45%. A potent dry cold front will arrive at the fire around 5 p.m. It will bring an abrupt shift in wind direction and increased wind speeds. This will result in **critical fire weather conditions through Tuesday** afternoon when winds are expected to taper off.

Fire Behavior

Minimal fire behavior is expected during the day. However, fuels are drying and could ignite during the afternoon, especially on a south-facing slope due to drier conditions. Cold temperatures this morning will delay fuel availability somewhat. Overall, the threat of significant fire spread today is low and will be mostly confined to isolated smokes and smoldering. Fire danger increases overnight and could threaten containment lines increase as a strong front with breezy winds and low humidities are expected.



Fire Bans

Madison County has issued a county-wide burn ban. Outdoor burning is prohibited on all private and public land. Violations are punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor as well as potential responsibility for the full amount of all expenses incurred in suppressing such fire. For more information, visit <https://www.madisonco.virginia.gov/AlertCenter.aspx>.

Shenandoah National Park has implemented a complete fire ban. Building, attending, maintaining or using an open fire anywhere within the boundaries of the park is prohibited. This ban includes all wood, charcoal, coal or other solid-fuel open air fires and fires in grates, grills, rings or pits in campgrounds, picnic areas, shelters and huts. For more information, visit <https://www.nps.gov/shen/planyourvisit/quaker-run-fire-information.htm>.

Evacuations

There are no evacuations in place for the Quaker Run Fire.

Smoke

Air quality is currently excellent. Additional information is available at https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook/1/xxx_nz5bvpxt?

Closures

Shenandoah National Park

The following closures are in effect in Shenandoah National Park:

- **Rapidan Camp** area near the eastern boundary in the center of the park. The closure includes the area around the historic camp and the trails leading to it including the following:
 - Mill Prong Trail
 - Mill Prong Horse Trail
 - Stony Mountain Trail
 - Fork Mountain Trail
 - Laurel Prong from Cat Knob intersection
 - Upper Dark Hollow Trail (does NOT impact access to falls)
 - The lower Rapidan Fire Road beyond the portion open to bicycles
- **Graves Mill Trail** from the intersection of the Staunton River Trail to the Rapidan Fire Road
- **Wilhite Wagon Trail**

Rapidan Wildlife Management Area – Rapidan Tract

Due to wildfire activity in the area, the Rapidan Tract of Rapidan Wildlife Management Area is temporarily closed in the interest of public safety. In addition, per *Code of Virginia* § 29.1-521, it is illegal “to kill or capture any wild bird or wild animal adjacent to any area while a field or forest fire is in progress.”

Temporary Flight Restrictions

A temporary flight restriction is in place over the Quaker Run Fire area from the surface up to and including 6,500 feet to provide a safe environment for firefighting. For more information, visit: https://tfr.faa.gov/save_pages/detail_3_7678.html.

Donations

If you are considering donating to the Quaker Run Fire firefighting efforts, please take them to the Madison County Department of Emergency Medical Services at 1494 N. Main Street, Madison, VA 22727. Thank you.