

West Virginia: Fires at a Glance

July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007



Did you know?

- **In FY 2007, West Virginia's 449 fire departments reported:**
 - 4,093 structure fires (includes 2,702 residential)
 - 1,433 vehicle fires
 - 2,686 outdoor fires
- **Leading causes of fires:**
 - Heating
 - Cooking
 - Open flames/embers
 - Electrical distribution and appliances
 - Arson
- Most fires occurred during the afternoon and evening, when people tend to be at home.
- Most fires occurred between November and April, when heating appliances tend to be most in use.
- Estimated property loss: \$86,905,702
- Estimated contents loss: \$35,407,397
- Total estimated combined loss: \$122,313,099
- **Smoke detectors in residential structure fires:**
 - Detectors present in only 28% of residential fires**
 - No detectors present in 35% of residential fires**
 - Undetermined detector presence in 37% of residential fires**

Information compiled through National Fire Information Reporting System by:
WV State Fire Marshal's Office
Public Education Division
304-558-2191, Ext. 223 Email: Carol.E.Nolte@wv.gov