



Michigan Emergency Management Association Conference October 28 – 30, 2024

Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) and YOUR Community

Will you be ready if disaster hits your community?

Introductions

- Paul Rogers – Michigan DNR Fire Prevention Specialist
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For this Meeting:

- Please make sure your cellphone is muted.
- If you have questions, please feel free to raise your hand anytime during the presentation.
- Please be sure to visit us at our vendor table.

Wildfire – Unplanned, Uncontrolled fire!!

What would you do if this happened in your community?



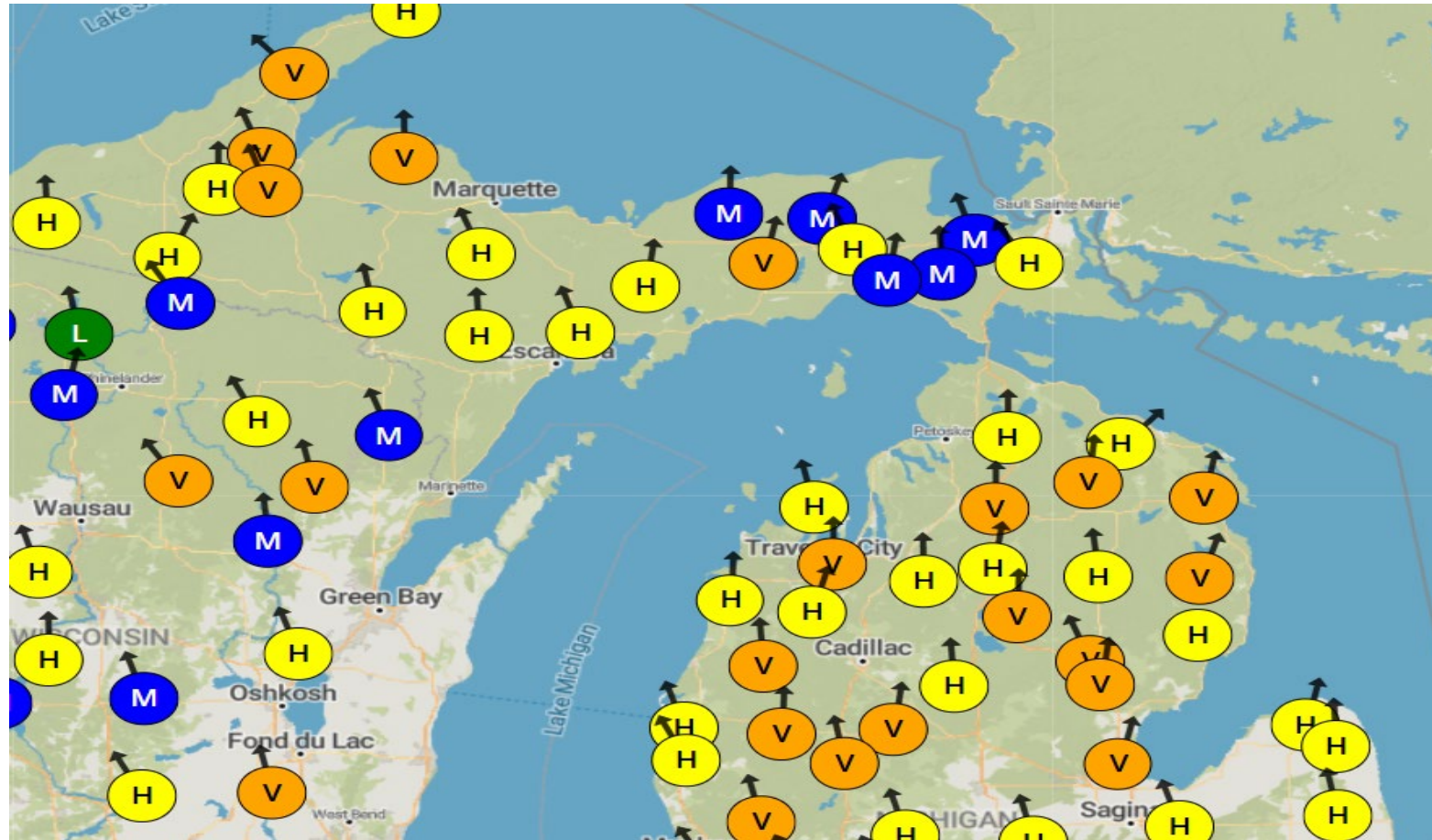
Abnormal Fire Seasons

- **Spring 2023**
- Did not end until July 4th weekend-High, Very High, Extreme's
- Stood up team of PIO's for media releases
- Wilderness Trail Fire-Crawford Co-2,400 acres
- Possible "Burn Ban" constant contact with Governor's office
- Numerous aircraft working in state-Fire Boss's, 215's, Air Attack, State police

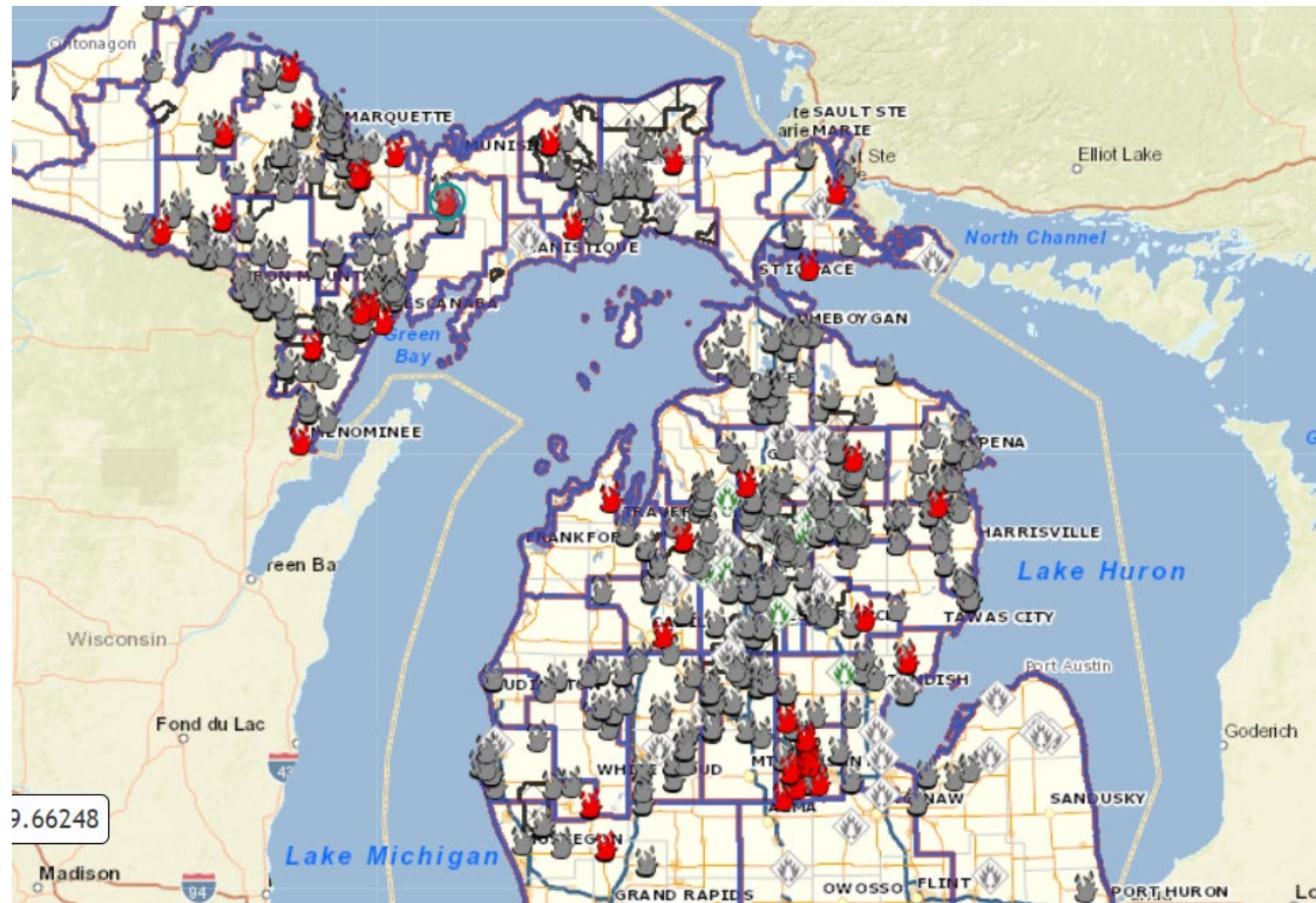
Abnormal Fire Seasons

- **Fall 2024**
- More fires suppressed in October than May-July
- Most were lightning strike fires
- USFS McCormick Wilderness fire
- 35 staff shifted to UP for suppression assistance
- Most fires burning 24” to 36” into the ground
- Early next week conditions should be subsiding
- Fire Boss’s, BIA Hot Shot crew-NM, MSP bucket work

Fire Danger 10/28



Current Active Fires



Fire Activity

2024 Fires: 279 fires burning 1400 acres

Year/Rating	2023	2024*
Low	73	21
Moderate	24	38
High	41	100
Very High	49	81
Extreme	17	10
First fire date	Feburary	January



Fuels Mitigation

- Grant from USFS for D1 CAT and 299 Skid Steer masticators
- Fuels mitigation work on State owned lands
- Mastication first then Rx burning
- <https://youtu.be/Ek-xA0JbLIQ>

Prescribed burning



2024*

**99 burns
10,000 acres**

2023

**73 burns
7,738 acres**

2022

**73 burns
6,188 acres**

Why a CWPP?

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) are collaborative, community-driven frameworks that outline local priorities for wildfire risk mitigation. Since the passage of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) in 2003, thousands of plans have been developed across the United States.

The considerable flexibility given to communities by HFRA as they develop their CWPPs has enabled communities to create plans which are tailored to their individual needs. There is a considerable variation in the scope, scale, and goals of the CWPPs in place across the country.

CWPP Benefits

Studies indicate that benefits of CWPPs extend beyond the planning document, action plan, and wildfire risk reduction itself to include building community capacity, developing social networks, building learning communities and developing new capacities to successful wildfire planning. These benefits are important and community flexibility in CWPP development is a key part of maintain these benefits.

Current CWPP's



CWDG – Protection for Your Community



COMMUNITY WILDFIRE DEFENSE GRANTS

Protecting
communities,
infrastructure, and
natural resources
from the threat of
wildfires.



What is CWDG?

The **Community Wildfire Defense Program (CWDG)** is a grant program intended to help at-risk local communities and Tribes plan for and reduce wildfire risk.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law authorizes the \$1 Billion, five-year CWDG Program, which prioritizes at-risk communities:

1. In an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential,
2. Are low income or,
3. Have been impacted by a severe disaster that affects the risk of wildfire.

What funding does CWDG provide?

The program provides funding to communities for two (2) primary purposes:

1. Develop and revise Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
2. Implement projects described in a CWPP that are less than ten (10) years old.

The Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program also helps communities in the wildland urban interface implement the three (3) goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy.

Who Can Apply?

Entities eligible to apply for at-risk communities for funding under the CWDG include:

- Units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires,
- Indian Tribes (please apply through either the Indian Tribes/Alaska Nation Corporations specific notice of the application regional notice),
- Non-profit organizations including homeowner associations that assist such communities,
- State forestry agencies (including U.S. territories and interests), and
- Alaska Native Corporations (please apply through either the Indian Tribes/Alaska National Corporations specific notice of the application regional notice).

How much funding can we request?

The maximum amount of Federal funding awarded to any one community or Tribe via this competitive process is:

\$250,000 for the creation or updating of a CWPP.

\$10 million for a project described within a CWPP less than ten (10) years old.

Required matching funds:

10% non-Federal match for proposals to develop or update a CWPP.

25% non-Federal match for proposals to implement projects described within a CWPP.

Match waiver request available for communities meeting the definition of underserved, nationally recognized Tribes, and Pacific Islands.

Useful Links for CWPPs and CWDG

- [Community Wildfire Defense Grants \(wildfirerisk.org\)](https://wildfirerisk.org)
 - <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool>
- [CWDG Dashboard Frequently Asked Questions - Wildfire Risk to Communities](https://wildfirerisk.org/about/faq/cwdg-tool/)
 - <https://wildfirerisk.org/about/faq/cwdg-tool/>
- [Neighborhoods at Risk: About - Headwaters Economics](https://headwaterseconomics.org/tools/neighborhoods-at-risk/tool-about/)
 - <https://headwaterseconomics.org/tools/neighborhoods-at-risk/tool-about/>
- [Wildfire Grants | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants)
 - <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants>
- [Community Wildfire Protection Plan Portal and Data Library - Fire Adapted Communities](https://fireadapted.org/cwpp-database)
 - [Fireadapted.org https://fireadapted.org/cwpp-database](https://fireadapted.org/cwpp-database)
- [FY23 CWDG Applicant Webinar - August 15, 2023 on Vimeo](https://vimeo.com/854845968?share=copy)
 - <https://vimeo.com/854845968?share=copy>
- [Who Is Eligible to Apply and How? | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants/cwdg/how-to-apply)
 - <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants/cwdg/how-to-apply>
- [Northeast-Midwest Wildfire Risk Explorer - Basic Viewer](https://wrap.northeastmidwest.wildrisk.com/Map/Public/#whats-your-risk)
 - <https://wrap.northeastmidwest.wildrisk.com/Map/Public/#whats-your-risk>