

# HEALTH AND SAFETY MESSAGE

*Every person must have a briefing prior to going on line.*

INCIDENT: County Line Wildfire      DATE: Thursday 4-12-2012      TIME: Day Shift, Swing and Night Shift

## ***Major Hazards and Risks:***

**Environmental Hazards**  
**Communications**  
**Night Operations**  
**Fire Behavior**

**Environmental Hazards** – There are many things in the environment that can bite, sting, or scratch you. Snakes, ticks, horseflies, and many forms of the vegetation with briars can be found in the area we are working in. Alligators and Hogs are also in the area. It is important to check daily for ticks, get cuts and scratches treated, and be alert to all the potential hazards. It may not be possible to avoid them all; however it is important to know where they can be found and what to do if you have an encounter with any of these.

**Communications** – All firefighters have 5 Communication responsibilities: Brief others (included all assigned and cooperative personnel), debrief your actions (talk about what worked and what didn't), communicate hazards to others, acknowledge messages and be sure to ASK if you don't know.

**Night Operations** – Maintain at least two times the distance of standing snags! Heavy equipment operators cannot see you, keep headlamps on or red safety (Bicycle type lights) on your back. Soft/rutted areas on dirt roads are harder to see at night, slow down and maintain safe following distance. Smoke on the road at night is twice as blinding as during the day.

**Fire Behavior** – Do not be complacent, fire behavior can become very active with the slightest wind increase, drop in relative humidity, or fuel change. Always know your escape routes and safety zones, and remember as you move your operations during the shift the escape routes and safety zones need to be reevaluated.

Remember the “ABCs” of Safety  
**A**lways **B**e **C**areful

Type 2 Team Safety Officers welcome information on safety topics. Please contact us at any time.

***LCES must be in place throughout the entire operational period.***

Type 2 Team Safety Officers...

Larry, Brad, Tom, Buddy, Don, and Kent