



## Town of Rome Wildfire Mitigation Working Group



February 12, 2010

Dear Town of Rome Property Owner,

As you know, the Town of Rome is heavily wooded. The combination of woodlands and high density housing make homes in the Town particularly vulnerable to wildfires. The effects of such wildfires would be devastating to both persons and property. Dead trees and brush are highly combustible and represent an ideal fuel for the start and spread of a wildfire. Because dead trees and brush in close proximity to homes constitute a safety hazard and a public nuisance, the enactment of an ordinance to regulate dead trees and brush was recommended in Rome's Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

The Town of Rome has determined that the "Restrictions on Dead Timber & Brush" ordinance will go into effect January 1, 2011. You can view the complete ordinance on Rome's website at [www.romewi.com](http://www.romewi.com). The Wildfire Mitigation Working Group and the Town of Rome will spend 2010 educating the public on the new restrictions.

The ordinance states that dead trees and brush are prohibited in managed areas as follows: Every owner of a parcel(s) of land that is two (2) acres or less with or without a permanent building on it shall be subject to these restrictions on their entire property. Every owner of a parcel that is greater than two (2) acres in size with a dwelling on it shall be subject to these restrictions within one hundred (100) feet of the dwelling. This shall not apply to any outlots, green spaces, common areas or other parcels that are undivided fractionally owned by a Property Association landowner or wholly owned by a Property Owners' Association.

The managed area shall be kept free of:

- dead trees, standing or fallen, that are 6 inches or greater in diameter at the base of the tree;
- dead brush and trees limbs on the ground greater than 3" in diameter on the larger end; and
- brush piles greater than 3' x 3' x 3'.

The Town of Rome Transfer Site at 1371 Apache Avenue accepts leaves, needles, and brush on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays (except Christmas and Easter), year-round from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at no cost. (Hours are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the winter.) Be reminded that it is unacceptable to move your brush to a neighboring property, including commonly owned areas of lake associations.

If you have questions, please call the Rome Municipal Building at (715) 325-8013.

Sincerely,

Town of Rome Wildfire Mitigation Working Group

**Town of Rome Wildfire Mitigation Working Group:**

John Frantz, Rome Fire Department  
 Lance Bastrup, Rome Town Board  
 Al Bilbao, Rome Public Works  
 Adam Grosz, Rome Police Dept.

Brian Luebke, WDNR  
 Todd Watson, Plum Creek  
 Darrin Johnson, WRPCO  
 Amy Luebke, WDNR

Dave Trudeau, Lake Sherwood  
 Leonard Kumbera, Lake Arrowhead  
 Bob Benkowski, Lake Arrowhead  
 Steve Scarbury, Lake Camelot

**Working together to implement the Town of Rome's Community Wildfire Protection Plan**