**CHURCH CAMP FIRE**

**Safety Considerations after the Fire**

There are many hazards that remain after a wildfire, even if the fire is no longer present. Some of these hazards may not be readily apparent. It is important to understand these dangers and be especially careful when re-entering an area after a fire.

**Safety Tips**

* Fires may flare up without warning. Should you see flame or heavy smoke, do not assume that fire authorities are aware it. ***Contact the Uintah Basin Interagency Fire Center (UBIFC) at 435-789-7021 to report a wildfire****.*

Emergency 911 calls should be used in emergencies that may threaten life, accidents with injuries, or to report acrime.

*Note: Some residual smoke within the fire interior is expected. Smoke may be present for several days as a result of stumps, roots, and other surface materials being exposed to changing temperatures and wind conditions. This activity should not pose a risk and smoke will continue to dissipate until fully consumed or extinguished by fire crews or weather. --* ***However, if in doubt as to whether to report the smoke, it is better to err on the side of caution and report it to UBIFC****.*

* Watch out for burned and standing dead trees. These trees have burned roots and can fall without warning. While traveling in the area, carry a chainsaw or hand saw as falling trees may block the road.
* Be especially cautious while traveling along the canyon road. Large equipment and increased traffic should be expected. Visibility may be reduced due to dust and residual smoke. In addition, a small amount of rain can make the road very slippery and drivers may experience a loss of traction or control.
* Watch out for ash pits – holes created by burned trees filled with hot ash. You or your pets can be seriously injured if you fall into an ash pit.
* Check to see if your gas and electric utilities are working properly. If you smell gas, shut off the gas supply at the main valve, leave immediately, and call the gas company. For those with generated electricity, if the electricity is not working, check to see if the main breaker is “on.” If it is and there is no power, call an electrician.
* Watch out for falling rocks, mudslides, and flooding. Mudslides, flooding, and falling rocks are common after a fire.
* Your house and yard may be covered in ash. There may still be live embers present. Wear long pants, a long sleeved shirt or a jacket, and boots. Wearing a dust mask will be especially important.
* Check for and extinguish any burning embers on the roof, in rain gutters, on the porch, or elsewhere on your property.

For more information about what to do after the fire, contact your local Cooperative Extension or Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, or visit www.utahfireinfo.gov.