

Kanawha Putnam Emergency Management Plan Hazard Identification Annex	
Conflagration Revised September 2022; Reviewed Biennially	B17
Risk Low	Vulnerability High

I. Introduction

- A. Purpose: Conflagration for the purpose of this annex deals with disastrous fires originating in forest or structures.
- B. Scope of Work:

Guidelines presented in this annex are intended for large scale or potential large spreading fires under the right conditions such as; flammable chemical incidents, large forest fires, and or multiple structure fires in a city or town.

II. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The metropolitan area includes large spans of forested, rural areas.
- B. Seasonal conditions can create an ideal setting for rapidly spreading forest fires.
- C. Large wildfires and spreading structure fires can produce a “Firestorm” and historically destroy entire communities or cities.
- D. During such fires, Chief Elected Officials, working with the Incident Command and Emergency Management Director, may have to decide on demolishing an area of their jurisdiction to contain such fires.
- E. Hazardous flammable products are transported by rail, boat and highways through Kanawha and Putnam counties. The possibility exists for an incident which could result in a conflagration.

III. Preparation: Forest

- A. Residents who have assets near a forest should clear the area of combustible material near their home or other structures.
- B. Fire Departments should consider fire prevention patrols during extreme dry conditions.
- C. Fire Departments should routinely check all forest firefighting equipment and staffing requirements for quick response.
- D. NOAA Weather Radio will issue statements concerning wind speed and lightning.

IV. Preparation: Structural

- A. Review Fire & Rescue Annex A-09
- B. Review Evacuation Annex A-04

V. Response

- A. When Senior Fire Officer declares the fire is a conflagration the 911 Center will initiate Emergency Operations Center activation procedures. If in Kanawha County, the Kanawha County Mobile Command Post will be dispatched to the staging area and provide communications with Emergency Operations Center. A disaster evacuation warning may be ordered by Incident Commander.
- B. All county fire departments will be alerted of conflagration. The 911 Communication Center will notify neighboring counties for possible move up or other equipment needs. Departments and individual firefighters are not to respond to the area without being requested by the Incident Commander.
- C. Due to power failures, large demand for water, utilization of rivers and diesel-powered pumps, and mobile tankers should be addressed by Emergency Operations Center staff.

VI. Primary Functional Plans:

1. A01 – Public Warning
2. A02 – Emergency Public Information
3. A03 – Communications
4. A04 – Evacuation
5. A06 – Traffic Diversion
6. A08 – Human Services
7. A09 – Fire and Rescue
8. A14 – Law Enforcement / Security
9. A27 – Catastrophic event