

An Eco-Kit to Prevent Forest Fires In Koycegiz - Gokova Region

A forest fire is a social emergency. We all have a responsibility to prevent it.



The Muğla chimney is a local chimney made of 24 to 27 tiles, taking into account local winds. It is on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage list. It provides smoke evacuation. It prevents fires that can spread from houses to the forest.

North winds blowing from the mountains to the coast dry the vegetation. They heat the air and cause the soil to dry out. The potential for forest fires to spread increases by these winds.



The most common cause of forest fires is human activity. Behaviors such as burning stubble or throwing cigarette butts on the ground directly cause fires. Industrial activities increasing global warming is an indirect but effective cause of fire.

Red pine trees, which are predominant in the region, regenerate themselves through forest fires. However, this happens in a time that exceeds human lifespan. So let's appreciate the forests around us and take care of them.

We Must Prevent Forest Fires in Koycegiz - Gokova Region

Sweetgum and red pine trees established natural forests in the Koycegiz-Gokova region. Cedar and larch trees are found high up on Sandras Mountain. While walking around the villages, you can come across old plane trees and oaks. Maquis are also important shrubs of the region. It is the responsibility of all of us to protect this beautiful vegetation covering the slopes descending steeply to the deep blue Aegean Sea from forest fires.



Goats roam the forests, creating paths. They help prevent forest fires by breaking down pine needles and broken branches on the forest floor. Goat breeding is an important activity that contributes to forest maintenance. Wild goats are an important part of biodiversity.



"There was once a big tile factory in Muğla. In the past, all the tiles in all the villages were from there. I am seventy-two years old. I learned to build chimneys from my master when I was young. I built chimneys for many houses from Ula to Fethiye. They call it the Muğla chimney. It saves the house when there is wind..."

A man in his seventies, a resident of Portakalk Village



"We have a wind here we call "Deli Memet". It blows mixed from all directions, it makes that fire grow, it takes it away."

A man in his eighties, a resident of Kızıyaka Village



<https://www.fesgder.org>

[muglaekolojikokuryazarlik](https://www.instagram.com/muglaekolojikokuryazarlik)



"We live close to the forest. If a fire falls on this forest, these villages will burn all the way to the sea."

Seksenlerin sonlarında Karabörtlen Köyü sakinli bir kadın



The peak season for forest fires is from mid-July to early September. With the climate crisis, the fire season is becoming increasingly extended.



Fire Alarm



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In case of smoke or possible fire, call the emergency number 112.

Don't light a fire in forest areas.

A forest fire is a disaster. Do not panic when a fire breaks out. Cover your mouth and nose with a wet cloth to avoid being affected by smoke.



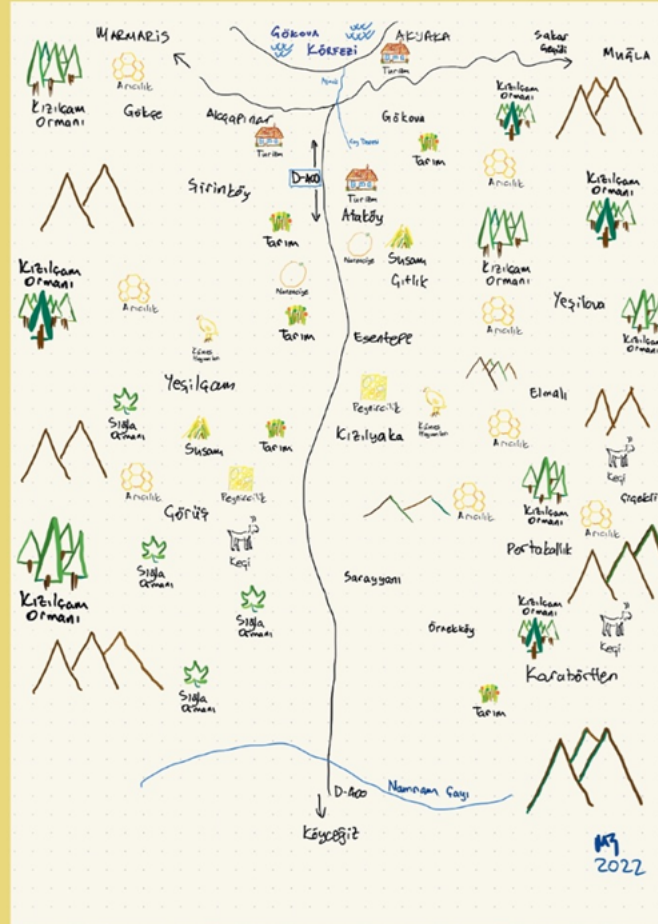
The first response to a forest fire is very important. A fire can be easily extinguished by cutting off the flames from contact with the air at the first moment of its occurrence. To do this, hit the flame with a large leafy branch.



The General Directorate of Forestry is authorized to respond to forest fires. Intervening in forest fires requires knowledge and experience. Careless actions during a fire can cause loss of life.



Cooperate with the authorities during intervention to fires. You can participate in the volunteering trainings provided by the General Directorate of Forestry by applying in person to the Forest Management Directorate in your location or by applying online via e-government.



To prevent forest fires, dry grass and bushes around houses should be cleared. Trees touching the roofs of houses should be pruned. Straw bales, if any, should be covered.



Burning stubble increases the risk of forest fires. You can cultivate the fields instead.



Clean roadsides are vital to prevent forest fires. Never throw garbage on the ground.

A cigarette butt is very dangerous. Every fire starts with a small spark.



Keep roads open during forest fires.

