

Pa. Forest Department Warns Of Fire Hazards

In the Spring a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of love but on the less romantic side, the advent of warm weather represents for many Pennsylvanians a time for a general cleanup both inside and out. Unfortunately too often in the process of cleaning up out of doors the property owner is unaware of the potential hazard he is creating as he begins burning off fields, hedgerows or just plain trash which has accumulated over the past months. Consequently this is as far as Pennsylvania's forests are concerned the dangerous time of the year when a mere spark, wafted aloft by a steady breeze can ignite a neighboring field woodlot or tract of forest land

and in minutes what took years to produce may be reduced to a charred mass of blackened tree stumps. This year, in particular, the danger is extremely great inasmuch as Pennsylvania is below par in the amount of precipitation since the beginning of the year. The normal precipitation for the Harrisburg area from Jan 1 to Mar 18 was 7.06 inches, reports the U.S. Weather Bureau but Pennsylvania has only had thus far, 3.10 inches of rain during that period or a deficiency of 3.96 inches. With this fact in mind the Division of Forest Protection Department of Forests and Waters warns property owners

Sectors Where Dog Licenses Lag Subject Of House-To-House Check

House-to-house checks to locate unlicensed dogs have begun in various sections of the state, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has announced.

Dog law officers are concentrating their efforts in areas where records show the sale of dog licenses "are not what they should be" according to T. Luke Toomey, director of the Department's Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

He said there have been instances in which homeowners headed then unlicensed dogs into cars and drove away until dog law officers left the neighborhood. "This is an expensive method of trying to evade the dog law," Toomey said. "After all a dog license costs only \$1.20 to \$2.20."

In homes where unlicensed dogs are found, charges are filed against the violators. Toomey said. He said the fine and prosecution costs usually total \$19 for the first offense.

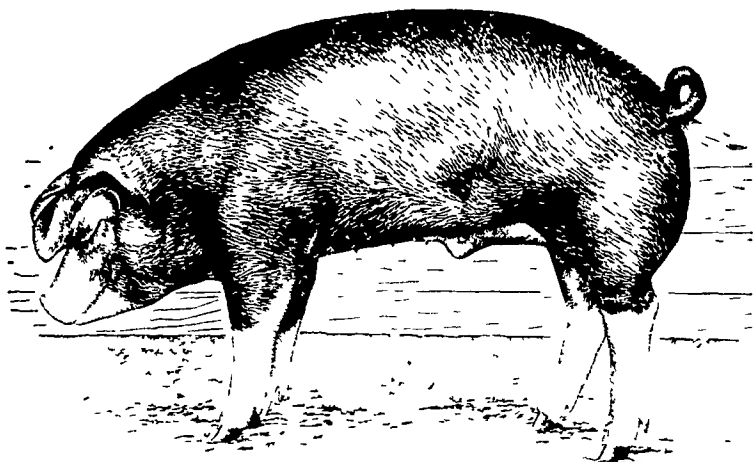
A rap on a door or a push on a doorbell usually brings vocal evidence that dog is on the premises Toomey said. Neighbors are also a good source of information concerning who owns dogs in a neighborhood he added.

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The practice of topdressing some of our crops with nitrogen fertilizer early in the spring needs attention at this time. Many wheat growers will top dress with 30 to 50 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre and get good increases in yields. Redcoat wheat has the ability to stand this extra fertilizer and will respond profitably. The application should be made about the middle of March when vegetative growth begins. Wheat that is to be underseeded to a legume should not receive more than 25 to 30 pounds per acre of actual nitrogen. Grass pastures will also respond well to early nitrogen by producing earlier grazing and more of it. With mixtures of grass legume pastures the use of a complete fertilizer is recommended for best results.

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