

# Training Notebook: Brush Fires



Willimantic Fire Department

# Brush Fire Captain's Drill

- Objectives
  - Provide an overview of brush firefighting terminology
  - Provide introduction to brush firefighting principles and tactics

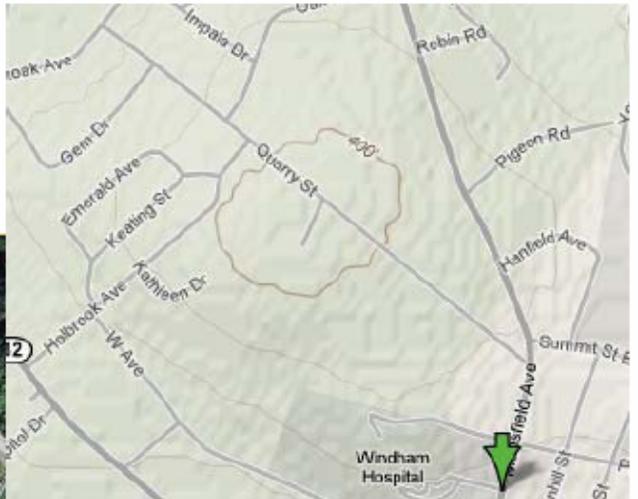
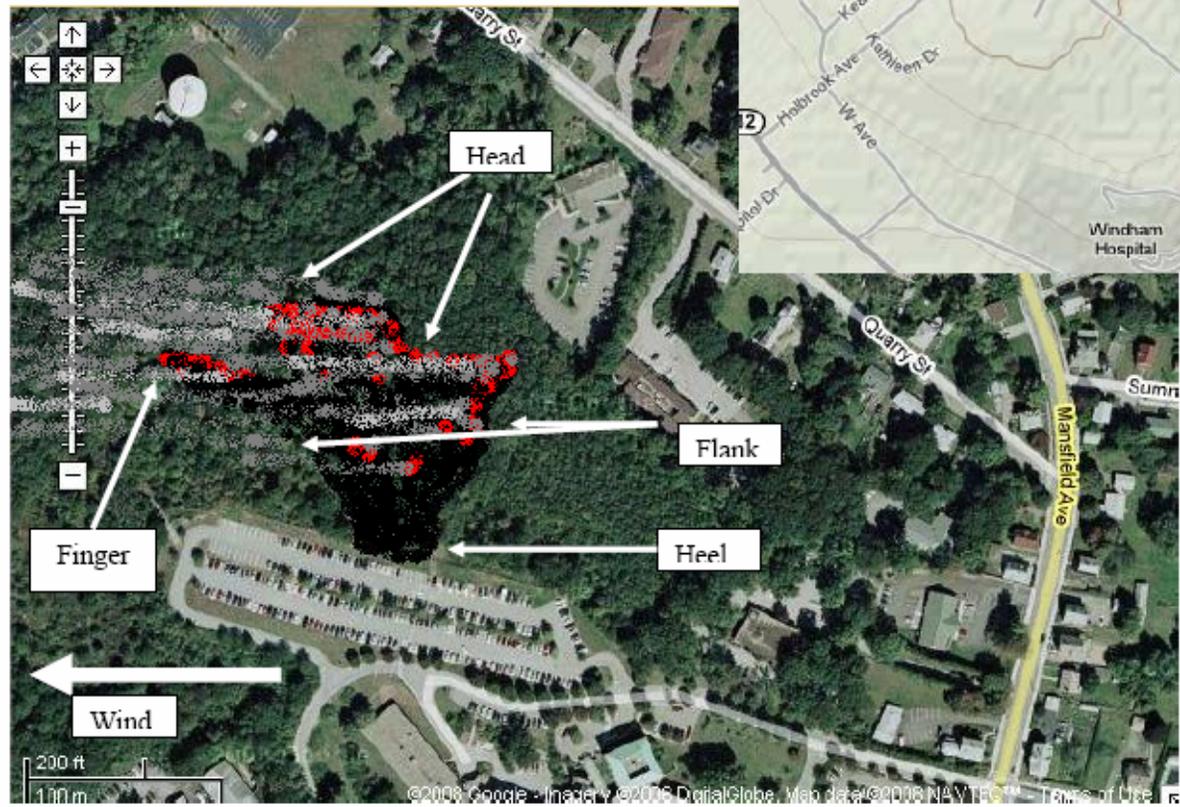
# Motivation

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- Willimantic brush fire history
- Potential areas of concern
- Interface issues
- Safety

# Footprint of a Simulated Brush Fire

## Basic Terminology



# Basic Methodology

- Fire attack
  - Direct
  - Indirect
  - Flank



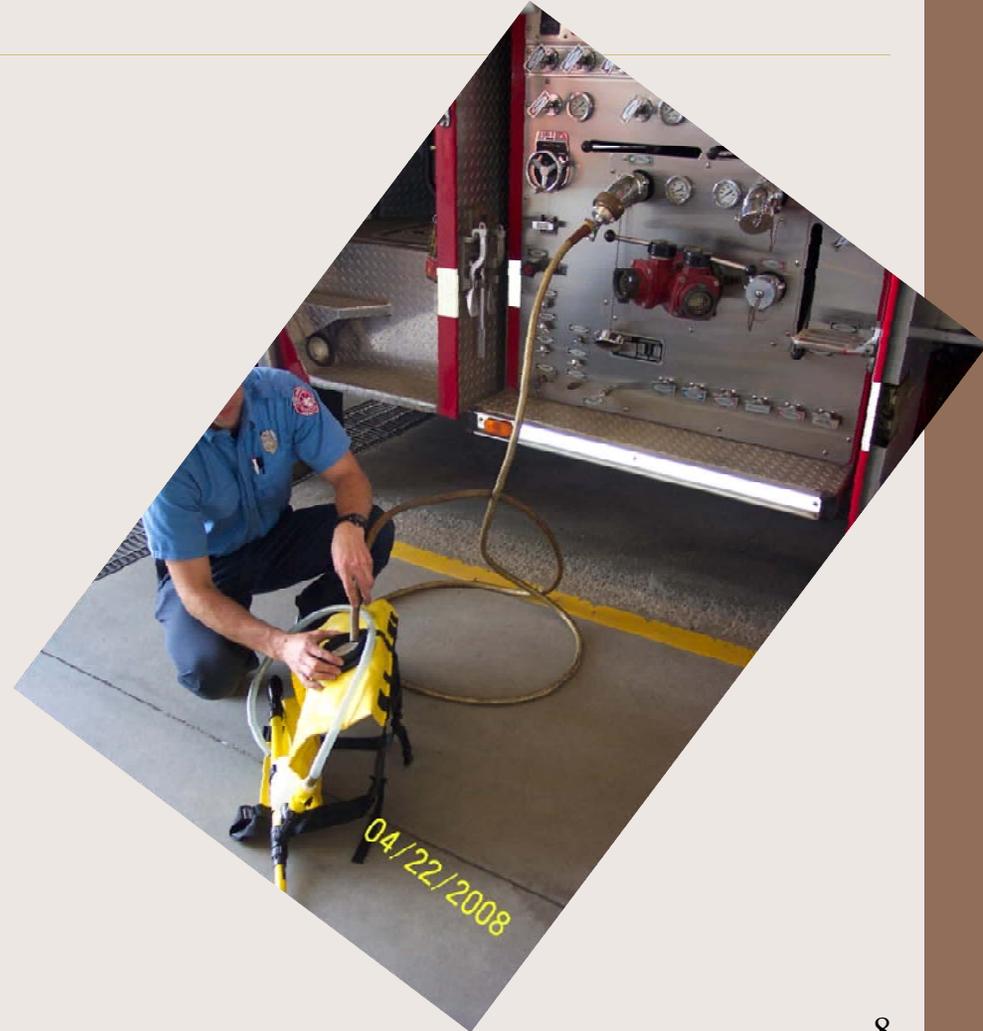
# Direct Attack

- Organized crew
  - Backpump (Indian Tank)
    - Not in service currently, but intending to remedy
  - Brush rake
  - Brush broom
  - Shovel
    - Least likely to be deployed by us
  - Red DEP Backpack with 300' forestry hose

# Backpump

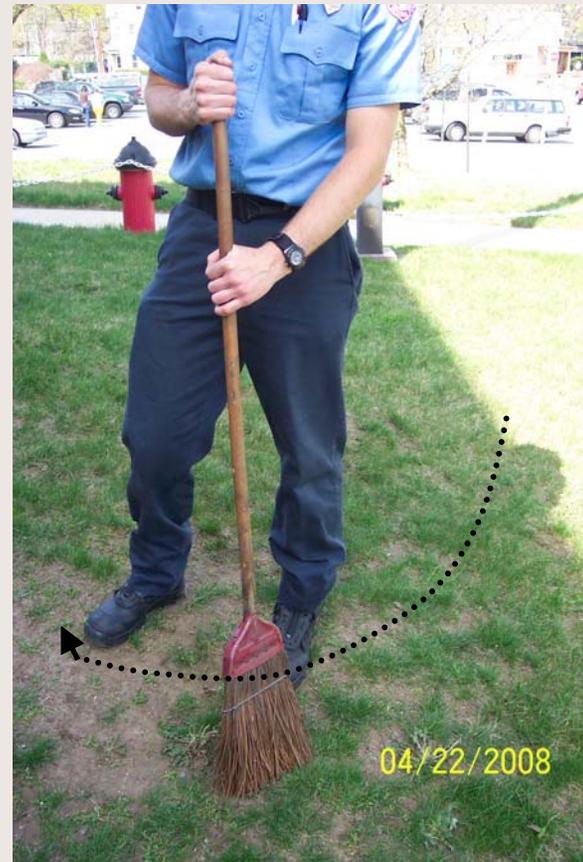


# Use of the Back Pump



# Brush Broom

- 2nd person in attack crew line
- Sweep embers and fuel into burn area
- Start the sweep at least 1 foot into unburned area
- If working alone, be alert and use effective communications.



# Brush Rake



- Scrape down to dirt
- Cut through roots
- Create a control line

# Shovel

- The last person in line will carry a shovel
- Various burning stumps, logs, and spot fires will need to be covered with soil
- Difficult areas for the preceding crew can be addressed too

# Indirect Attack

- Not a common method here
- Can be used effectively
- Manpower intensive



# Forest Service Lessons

- Scout the fire and be Alert.
- Establish safety zones and escape routes
- Watch for weather and fire changes
- The head of the fire is dangerous
- The burned out area is a safe area
- Maintain communications

# The End

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- Final Notes
- Summary & conclusion