

This MoU form is for illustration purposes.

Your TDF district office will provide an MoU for signatures.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
FOR RURAL FIRE DEFENSE

BETWEEN THE \_\_\_\_\_ FIRE DEPARTMENT AND  
THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DIVISION OF FORESTRY

Wildfires are a threat to life and property in \_\_\_\_\_ County. The fire response agencies of \_\_\_\_\_ County have a common mission to minimize losses as a result of wildfire. The undersigned recognize this need and have arrived at this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING for these primary purposes:

1. To provide for close cooperation between agencies on mutual objectives.
2. To clarify purpose and responsibilities of each organization.
3. To enhance delivery of service to the public.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. AREA COVERED:
2. SOURCE OF FUNDS:
3. FACILITIES: a. Equipment:  
b. Manpower:
4. TYPE ORGANIZATION: (volunteer / paid / combination)

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

1. AREA COVERED: The County of \_\_\_\_\_, except for incorporated areas and federal lands not under specific agreement.
2. SOURCE OF FUNDS: Primarily state appropriation, supplemented by county fire control assessments and federal matching funds.
3. FACILITIES: a. Equipment:  
b. Manpower:
4. RESPONSIBILITIES: To provide protection from wildfire; to conduct a fire prevention program; to enforce wildfire laws; to encourage and assist landowners in the use of accepted forestry practices.

## OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

### 1. DISPATCHING:

- a. The Division of Forestry will be responsible for dispatching a crew to the reported wildfire.

### 2. COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. The Division of Forestry will immediately advise the Fire Department of any burning or threatened structure(s) at the fireground.
- b. The Fire Department will immediately advise the Division of Forestry of any burning or threatened natural cover fuels at the fireground.
- c. Emergency messages will be conveyed through a pre-arranged method that is compatible with the agencies involved.

### 3. MUTUAL ASSISTANCE:

- a. Suppression: When both agencies are at the same fire incident, command responsibilities shall lie with the agency concerned most directly with what is burning. If both natural cover, such as woodland, and structures are burning, each agency shall attend its normal responsibilities and/or support the other agency. Each agency is responsible for assuring that its personnel and equipment are qualified and appropriate for the assigned task.
- b. Training: Each agency will be involved in the other agency's training programs.
- c. Other:
  - i. Each agency will support programs, such as public outreach and surveys, of the other that increase the public awareness of the hazard and destruction of fire and/or make the objectives of this MEMORANDUM possible.
  - ii. Agencies shall share basic fire report information if requested.

MEMORANDUM

This memorandum shall be effective when signed by both parties. It continues in effect unless and until either party gives thirty (30) days notice in writing to the other party.

\_\_\_\_\_  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
(street address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(mailing address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(city, state, zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(printed name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
P.O. BOX 40627  
NASHVILLE, TN 37204

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

STEVEN SCOTT  
STATE FORESTER

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

