



The Forest
concerns us all

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF FIRE

- Call 199 IMMEDIATELY, the Fire Brigade number and give all necessary information as to your location and the location of the fire.
- Describe the kind of vegetation that is burning.
- Be precise concerning the direction of the fire.
- Do not hang up until you have given all the necessary information.



Political Planning for Emergencies of Prefecture of Etoloakarnania
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EUROPEAN UNION

European regional
development fund

With a little
ATTENTION
our forests can
escape destruction.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM
Web site: www.monitor-cadses.org

By protecting our forests,
we protect our Environment,
our Culture,
our Life!

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MONITOR is a project carried out in Greece by the **Prefecture of Etoloakarnania** in cooperation with **ANAIT S.A.**

MONITOR (INTERREG III B CADSES) is an inter-European project which aims at natural disaster management and focuses on monitoring methods and risk communication with specific targets such as:

- Comparing and recommending the best methods of monitoring natural disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, subsidence, forest fires, floods etc.
- Developing innovative methods for the management of hazardous situations and implementing them on a national scale.
- Contributing in raising awareness and informing experts as well as the public and exchanging views on natural disaster management with other participants in the project.

Given the fact that our Prefecture is at high risk concerning forest fires, **MONITOR** is becoming an indispensable tool in the hands of the Prefecture of Etoloakarnania for the protection of forests.

The forest is a natural good invaluable for our life and existence. It is a naturally renewable resource with substantial prospects for the economic, environmental, social and cultural development of our area and the improvement of living conditions.

We believe that through its activities and results **MONITOR** will contribute greatly to the development and adoption of the latest preventative methods which will help protect our area from natural disasters and more specifically forest fires.

Th. N. Sokos

**Prefect of Etoloakarnania
President of ANAIT S.A.**

THE VALUE OF THE FOREST

- It produces the amount of OXYGEN necessary for our life.
1 hectare of forest absorbs more than 4,000kg of carbon dioxide and turns it into oxygen.
- It holds the soil and prevents erosion.
It was observed that in a deciduous forest the amount of erosion was 50kg per hectare, in an evergreen forest 1kg, whereas in cultivated land it was 10,000kg per hectare and 800kg in pasture. The damage caused by erosion in our country is estimated between 5,000-10,000 hectares per year.
- It helps maintain the biological balance in nature.
- It produces considerable amounts of biomass and various forestry products and absorbs energy.
On average, one hectare of temperate forest produces 6,000-25,000kg of biomass per year.
- It ensures favourable conditions for the protection, nutrition and conservation of many living organisms.
- Improves the quality of water and acts as a biological, chemical and natural water filter.
- It increases rainfall, turns humidity into rain and liquefies fog.
- It regulates extreme temperatures.
- Reduces the intensity of light and influences its composition creating a particular photo-climate.
- Reduces wind force and noise.
- It offers opportunities of employment, exercise and entertainment and contributes to economic, social and cultural development.



HOW TO PREVENT FOREST FIRE

Prevention of forest fires is directly related to the causes provoking them and of course everyone should be concerned.

Apart from the preventive measures taken by the Authorities, it is necessary to ensure that no one starts a fire through negligence.

More specifically, in order to prevent a forest fire:

- Never forget that it is strictly forbidden to light a fire in the open for any reason during the summer months.
- Avoid tasks in the open which can cause a fire (welding, use of tools which could create sparks etc.)
- Do not burn rubbish or dry land vegetation and cut tree branches in fields within a distance of 300 metres from a forest.
- Do not use improvised barbecues in the open near a forest.
- Do not drop lit cigarettes.
- Do not dump rubbish in the forest. This may cause a fire.
- Respect prohibition signs in fire hazardous areas.

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