



# News Release

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## **INVESTIGATORS NEED PUBLIC'S HELP IN ARSON CASES** **IN POLK AND HARALSON COUNTIES**

Law enforcement authorities say they are making progress in the investigation of several intentionally set wildfires in Haralson and Polk counties which burned more than 20 acres and caused extensive property damage earlier this month. Numerous tips have been received and several leads are being followed.

"A reward of up to \$10,000 is being offered by the Georgia Arson Control Board for information leading to the conviction of the arsonist(s) responsible for these deliberately set fires," said Stephen Wilson, Investigator for the Georgia Forestry Commission Law Enforcement Department. "Anyone with information about the fires should call the GFC Arson Tip Line at 1-800-GA-TREES."

The Georgia Forestry Commission's highly trained arson specialists have been working closely with local officials, analyzing on-site evidence and actively building a case that will be used to prosecute those responsible for the fires. The penalty for woods arson in Georgia is up to 20 years in prison and a \$50,000 fine.

Anyone with information pertaining to the Haralson or Polk county fires should contact the Georgia Forestry Commission at 1-800-GATREES (1-800-428-7337) or [enforcement@gfc.state.ga.us](mailto:enforcement@gfc.state.ga.us). If preferred, callers may provide information anonymously.

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