

State of Vermont
Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

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Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Vermont Rural Fire Chiefs and Town Forest Fire Wardens
FROM: Forest Resource Protection, Vermont Forests, Parks & Recreation
DATE: October 2, 2024
SUBJECT: Wildland Fire Gear 50/50 Purchasing Program

The Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) 50/50 Purchasing Program, funded by the U.S. Forest Service, is available to rural towns in Vermont with a population of 10,000 or less. The purpose of the VFA program is to provide financial assistance to equip fire departments in rural communities to prevent and suppress wildland fires. Towns order their equipment and pay 50% of the total cost, and the other 50% is covered by the purchasing program.

The 50/50 Purchasing Program will be available October 2, 2024 – November 3, 2024, OR until the funds have been depleted, whichever comes first. Town orders may not exceed \$5,000 total.

To place an order utilize the [Fire Gear Order Form](#) located on our webpage fpr.vermont.gov/WildlandFireGear this will allow fire departments to order select items in the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Wildland Catalog. Note: not all the items in the DLA Wildland Catalog are available for purchase. The items included in the 50/50 Purchase Program are items that are most requested and readily available. The system will automatically apply the 50% discount while funds are available and produce an invoice with the correct total.

Check payments MUST be received by November 4, 2024

Important: Please update contact information and emails for your fire department. You can add as many contacts as you want. This email list is our method of informing about any 50/50 equipment offerings.

Be sure to look through the Wildland Catalog prior to ordering and double check to be sure the items you ordered are what you intended. Every item in the catalog and online system has a unique 13-digit NSN number; using the NSN number will ensure accuracy in ordering. **Items ordered by mistake cannot be returned.**

If you have any questions about this program, need assistance with your order or payment please contact Catherine Todd, by phone at 802-585-6759 or e-mail at Catherine.Todd@vermont.gov.