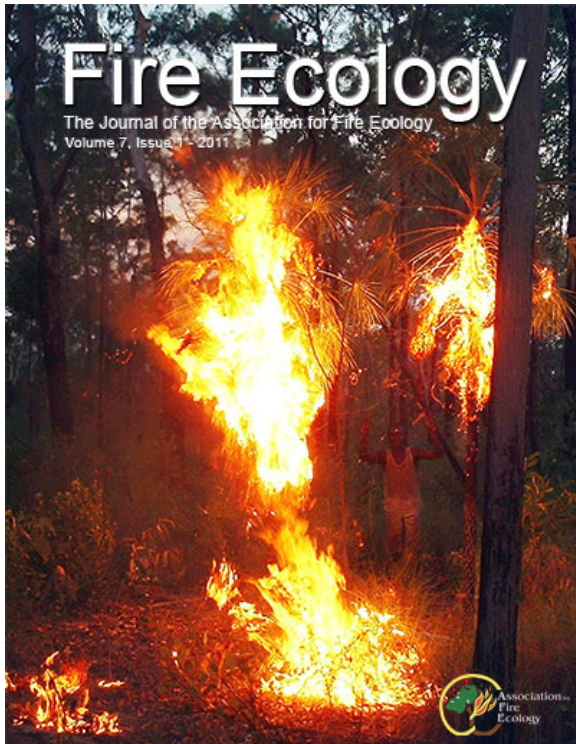




s.a.f.e.
student association
for fire ecology



New Member and Chapter Welcome Guide



Joining AFE is quick and convenient with our [online membership application](#). All SAFE members join through AFE and qualify for the student discount.

Annual Membership Dues:

\$40 for Regular Membership

\$20 for Students ~ includes membership in SAFE

\$20-40 Sliding Scale for International Members.

Welcome!

The Student Association for Fire Ecology is dedicated to exploring the role of fire in ecosystem processes. SAFE is the student organization of the Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) and benefits from their international expertise, funding, and networking.

Since 2000, colleges and universities across North America have started SAFE chapters to bring awareness of the role of fire in their local ecosystems and to describe the ways the public can benefit from education and prescribed and natural fire. SAFE consists of a network of campus chapters, each with a faculty advisor.

SAFE's objective is to provide students from diverse backgrounds with an open forum on fire ecology through which research can be shared, networks formed, and funding and information resources can be accessed. SAFE helps you connect your interest in fire ecology nationally and internationally, highlighting and facilitating opportunities for students!

AFE provides travel grants to SAFE members wishing to attend annual AFE conferences, where you can participate in mentor functions and chapter panel discussions, present papers, meet speakers, and enjoy many other activities with other students and fire professionals.



Dr. Brian Oswald and SAFE member Amanda Bataineh at the poster session in Spokane.

Start a SAFE Chapter at Your School Today!

How to get a faculty advisor— The first thing to do when thinking of starting a SAFE chapter is to get a faculty advisor. Faculty advisors are needed to make sure things run smoothly within the chapter, and to help communicate ideas to outsiders. Faculty advisors should be interested and knowledgeable in fire ecology.

How to get established as a formal organization—Although each school is different, there should be some sort of student organization main office that will have the specific criteria for starting your chapter. This office may also have ideas for recruitment and activities your chapter can participate in.

Recruiting members— There are several ways to recruit members to your chapter.

- Give short, 5-10 minute talks to introductory classes in your department about your chapter and activities you participate in.
- Hand out brochures or fliers about your chapter at college wide events or freshmen orientations. A sample SAFE brochure can be printed from the AFE website.
- Help other organizations on campus with work projects or activities they participate in.
- Post signs around your department that specify the meeting times and places.

Chapter Activities—The organization may participate in several activities throughout the school year. These activities can be fun and educational.

- Set up booths at local festivals and events with activities that give off a positive message about fire ecology.
- Invite guest speakers to chapter meetings to talk about current fire events or job opportunities. These guest speakers can be professionals in the field of forestry or fire ecology.
- Take educational field trips that involve fire ecology, or attend tours at state parks or museums.
- Hold fundraisers to send SAFE members to AFE conferences or other educational events.
- Attend AFE conferences. Information about these conferences can be found on the AFE website: <http://www.fireecology.org>.

Chapter Dues—The chapter may be required by the school to pay membership dues. Each school is different, so you should check with the student organization office.

- AFE dues: To be an active student member of AFE, membership fees are \$20 per year, per student. This will get students involved in the National Student Association for Fire Ecology. They will receive updates on upcoming activities, and be able to attend conference calls. Students will also receive monthly AFE newsletters.
- If the school requires dues, each member of the chapter may be required to pay a small fee, like \$10, per school year.

What Should the Chapter Spend Money On— Student Membership fees paid to AFE can be reimbursed to the chapter to use for travel expenses to come to AFE conferences, or to attend educational events. Keep in mind that the funds reimbursed will be the amount that is paid in membership dues to AFE. The reimbursement form for AFE funds is also included at the end of this packet, and on the AFE website. If the chapter has unused funds, they can be used for:

- Purchasing things such as cookies or soda for meetings
- Making chapter shirts for members
- Travel expenses

National SAFE—The National Student Association for Fire Ecology holds monthly conference calls. Each school chapter is required to have a representative on the call to talk about recent events in their chapter and important topics. By paying student membership dues to AFE, you will receive emails from SAFE that include conference call dates and times. If you are interested in becoming an officer of the National SAFE, contact any of the officers for information or questions you may have.

Other Activities—If you are still unsure of activities your chapter can participate in, you may contact representatives from any of the very active chapters below:

- University of Montana: [Jena Ferrarese](#) or [Matt Delaney](#)
- Stephen F. Austin State University: [Mike Tiller](#)
- Oregon State University (Pyromaniacs): [Chris Dunn](#) or [Emily Platt](#)
- Colorado State University: [Kevin Moriarty](#)

SAFE members are also AFE members, and they receive the same membership benefits:

Conferences—AFE hosts some of the most exciting fire ecology conferences in the world! AFE members will receive discounted registration rates on all of our conferences and priority selection for presenting at our conferences over non-members. As well, there may be special “members only” activities such as field trips, socials, or presentations during our conferences or at other times. Our upcoming conferences can be found on our website at www.fireecology.org/conferences/upcoming-conferences/.

The AFE Newsletter—This E-publications bring you the latest AFE news, policy updates, and fire information. Members will receive notices and links for this publication directly by email.

Wildland Fire Certification Program—Only AFE members may apply for this exciting new program that offers professional certification for fire ecologists. The goals of this program are to formally identify fire careers as vital professions, to set standards for the preparation of future fire professionals, and to document the education, experience, and training qualifications of fire ecology researchers, educators, and managers. Once certified, AFE members will be listed on our website.

Awards—AFE has annual prestigious awards that it gives out to outstanding students and professionals in the field of fire ecology. Only AFE members can submit nominations for awards.

Job Board—This excellent resource for fire ecology related jobs and research positions will now be accessible to members only.

Online Community—Only AFE members can access our membership directory, join a list-serve on topics of interest (coming soon), and participate in our member discussion boards.

And more to come—We are continuing to develop our membership benefits to show our appreciation to our members. And we'd love to hear from you! If you have ideas, comments, suggestions, or questions, please contact us at office@fireecology.net.

How to Establish a SAFE Chapter:

If you have any further questions about starting a SAFE Chapter at your university, contact the SAFE President. For 2013, the SAFE president is [Kevin Moriarty](#).

For More Information:

For more information or questions about the Association for Fire Ecology, you can contact AFE's Co-Director Catia Juliana at office@fireecology.net.

Learn more about SAFE at: www.fireecology.org/sections/safe/

Join our Facebook Pages:

AFE: www.facebook.com/fireecology

SAFE: www.facebook.com/groups/63192936473/

Follow AFE on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/fireecology>





Promoting the Application of Fire Ecology Through Science and Education

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<http://www.fireecology.org> | office@fireecology.net

Request for Funds Redistribution to SAFE Chapters

Starting in 2011, AFE will redistribute funds from SAFE members back to local chapters upon request from the chapter coordinator. Students will organize new members to join their groups at the beginning of the school year. Students registered in SAFE through AFE as of October 31 each year will qualify to have their SAFE dues sent back to their local chapter. Chapters must have faculty advisors to qualify for reimbursement. This completed form must be returned to AFE by December 1 to receive the funds. Please send the form to: office@fireecology.net.

All dues sent to local chapters must be used for SAFE organizing and activities, the details of which are to be determined by the local chapter. Any funds not used at the end of the academic year must be sent back to AFE.

Students who don't go to schools with local chapters can choose to establish a new chapter at their school or can be listed in our at-large "spotfire" chapter. These SAFE member dues will stay with AFE and do not get redistributed.

School/University:

Student Coordinator Name & Department:

Phone & Email:

Faculty Advisor, Title & Department (required):

Phone & Email:

Please answer the following questions so we can learn more about your group:

Does your chapter have a name?

Is your school listed on the AFE webpage? If not, we will add your University to our list of schools. If your group has its own webpage we can list that as well:

Approximately how many members does your group have?

How often does your group meet?

Please tell us about the activities your group engages in:

Which members from your group:

- Have served as SAFE Officers?
- Attend monthly national SAFE meetings?
- Have attended AFE conferences?
- Have applied for and received student travel grants?
- Have presented at AFE conferences?
- Have applied for AFE's Wildland Fire Certification Program?
- Have received other awards/grants through AFE?

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your group and its activities (for example, great ideas that other chapters might be interested in)?

Please list the SAFE registered members that you are requesting redistribution for below:

Total amount requested (\$20 per registered member):

Checks must be made out to Faculty or Departments at the School. How would you like your check to be addressed?

Date this form is submitted (must be between Oct. 31 and Dec. 1):

Name of person completing this form:

Thank you for taking the time to request these funds. AFE is very excited to have such a strong and active student section. If you have other ideas for SAFE or ways that AFE can further support SAFE's activities, please let us know.

For Office Use Only

Date Request Received:	# of members confirmed:	Total funds redistributed:	Date Sent: