



# Service Rate Changes Effective October 1, 2022 Tractor/Dozer; Aviation; Backfire Torch Fuel; and Personnel

Effective October 1, 2022, rates will change for specific GFC services, due to increased operation costs. These rates will apply when installing pre-suppression fire breaks, suppressing wildfires, and/or extracting timber harvesting and reforestation equipment. For services not listed, rates will remain unchanged.

## **Tractors and Bulldozers**

- All tractors, regardless of size or type, will be charged \$205 per hour for the first hour of service. The one-hour charge is also the MINIMUM service fee. This new rate includes the transportation fee, which is applied to the first-hour rate of \$205. *NOTE: Our John Deere 1050 rate will not change.*
- A \$140 per hour rate will apply to each successive hour, as measured on the tractor hour meter.
- Partial hours will be charged \$14. for each 1/10 hour (.10), as measured on the tractor hour meter.

Rates will be the same for installing firebreaks with front-mounted blades or using a lift, wheel fire plows, or harrows. These rates will also apply to costs for wildfire suppression (suppression charges) and the extraction of timber harvesting and reforestation equipment.

Landowners who are scheduled to receive plowing/harrowing/burn assistance on or after October 1, 2022, will be charged the new rates. All other procedures remain the same, including the signed agreement requirement for services being provided.

## **Aviation – Airplanes, Single Engine Air Tankers (SEAT), and Helicopter**

New rates effective October 1, 2022, for GFC aviation resources, are:

- \$250 per hour for fixed-winged patrol airplanes.
- \$610 for Single Engine Air Tankers (SEAT) without retardant use.
- \$650 per hour when using retardant.
- \$1,250 per hour for Helicopters.
- Each per-hour rate will be the MINIMUM rate.

New GFC aviation service rates:

- Aviation Mechanics Truck w/tools - \$150 per day.
- Aviation Support Personnel - \$35 per hour.
- Aviation Mechanic - \$50 per hour.
- Portable Retardant Mix Tank - \$250 per day.

## **Personnel**

- All GFC personnel rates will increase to \$35 per hour.

## **Backfire Torch Fuel (Burning Fuel)**

- Backfire fuel will increase to \$4.00 per gallon.

GEORGIA FORESTRY  
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The Administration and IT Departments will make updates to our invoicing systems and intranet page that display our service rates: <https://intranet.gfc.state.ga.us/Invoices/>, effective October 1, 2022.

Our Public Relations Department will initiate communications through traditional media and social media platforms to announce these increases.

County Units and Area personnel should continue to enter accurate and timely information into the Plow and Burn Log, as well as within the Fire Reporting System, so service invoices can be created and mailed promptly. There are no changes to these procedures.

If services (plow/harrow/burn assistance) were previously scheduled to be completed on or after October 1, 2022, the responsible County Unit personnel should contact landowners, or their designated representatives, to notify them of these rate increases effective October 1, 2022. All services completed through September 30, 2022, will be charged the expiring rates.