



Date: August 8th, 2018

For Immediate Release

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Fire Danger EXTREME in Missoula County Outdoor Permit Burning Remains CLOSED

August 8th 2018, 12:00 PM- Missoula, Montana – Interagency wildland fire officials with the Missoula County Fire Protection Association (MCFPA) have determined fire danger within Missoula County to be EXTREME.

Recent days have been extremely hot and dry with little to no moisture, causing vegetation and grasses to cure. This fine, dead fuel is the primary carrier of fire in the wildland, and when fires get established in this fuel type they spread out of control rapidly. A rise in temperatures are expected throughout the week along with windy conditions without moisture at the end of the week. These conditions will cause fuels to dry out even further. All fuels both live and dead have dried to the point that fires will become very active quickly.

We can't afford for anyone to be careless during activities that have the potential to start a fire, so we urge the public to be extremely cautious with ignition sources. We are also asking the public to be extremely cautious while operating equipment that can cause a wildfire ignition. **Be Done By 1** if you are operating internal combustion engines, OHV's, or any other equipment that can produce sparks. Also remember to perform a one hour patrol after using internal combustion engines. We are advising travelers to inspect and keep up on trailer maintenance. **Keep tow chains from dragging** when you're getting ready to travel to recreational destinations. Visit <http://firesafemt.org/> for more information.

West Central Montana fire managers have decided to go into **Stage II Fire Restrictions** starting this Friday morning (8/10/18). Please visit www.firerestrictions.us to see if there are fire restrictions in your area.

Missoula County residents need to know that our wildland firefighters face a long, arduous fire season even without having to respond to human-caused fires. The more careful we are with fire, the less danger our first responders will face.

We recommend all residents that live near or in woodland areas in Missoula county sign up for SMART 911 by visiting smart911.com. You must register to receive these alerts to receive emergency alerts at via text, email, or a phone call.

Folks can also "like" the Missoula County Fire Protection Association on Facebook, check out our **twitter account @mcfpa** and get information on our webpage: www.mcfpa.org. Please visit restrictions.us to identify restrictions in your area.

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