



MISSOULA RURAL FIRE DISTRICT STAY UP TO DATE

LESS SMOKE, MORE RAIN, LOWER FIRE DANGER- NOW WHAT?

Fire danger has been lowered to High, Stage 2 fire restrictions have been lifted, we have gotten more precipitation, there is less smoke in the air. Does this mean we can go back to pile burning and worry less about starting and spreading fires? Not quite. General outdoor burning remains closed at this time. Enjoy the fresh air and ability to mow your lawns past 1 pm but still remain mindful of wildfire danger. Even in high fire danger, fires can start and spread quickly with readily available, dry, flashy fuels and dry winds. Check on local campfire restrictions before starting a recreational or cooking fire, and, if permitted, be sure that your fire is always out cold before leaving it unattended. Out cold and dead out mean that the fire is completely extinguished and the ashes, soil, remnants are cold to the touch. In order to accomplish this, you should wet your fire, stir, wet it again, and continue until it is cold to the bare hand (use caution when touching previously burned areas with the bare hand).

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS IN THE FALL

Approaching fall weather can bring dry grasses, trees, needles, and leaves and generate strong, dry prefrontal winds. With the cooler weather, homeowners are encouraged to continue preparing and maintaining wildfire ready homes. Remove dry, fallen leaves and pine needles as they fall rather than allowing them to pile up. Protect your home and property by managing the home ignition zone (link attached for more information). Even though smoke continues to clear out, homeowners are encouraged to use HEPA air filtration units to remove smoke particles and irritants from their homes. Continue to stay wildfire ready and aware year-round to prevent tragedy.

HOME RISK ASSESSMENTS

Missoula County offers free home wildfire risk assessments and community-wide wildfire planning. You can sign-up for a free home wildfire risk assessment using the link provided. During this assessment, a fire professional will come to your home on a scheduled date and time to do a thorough walkthrough of your property, providing recommendations on how to strengthen your home against wildfires. The home ignition zone (HIZ) will be assessed for vulnerabilities, recommendations on how to reduce vegetation and fuel hazards as well as home hardening recommendations will be provided, and tips on smoke readiness and evacuation procedures will be discussed. If you qualify, Missoula County may cover up to 75% of eligible project costs for wildfire mitigation projects on your property through the Wildfire Ready Cost-Share Program.

LINKS

[MISSOULA
RURAL FIRE
DISTRICT](#)

[WILDFIRE
RISK
ASSESSMENT](#)

[FIRE AND
SMOKE MAP](#)

[HOME
IGNITION
ZONE](#)

[WILDFIRE
READY COST-
SHARE
PROGRAM](#)

[BOARD OF
TRUSTEES
MEETING
SCHEDULE](#)

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