

NEWSLETTER

**JULY 2026
ISSUE NO 5**

MISSOULA RURAL FIRE DISTRICT STAY UP TO DATE

FIRE DANGER

Fire Danger in Missoula County is currently Moderate and all outdoor burning is closed. This was determined due to increasing temperatures and drying vegetation, even with the rain we have received. With the predicted hot and dry conditions to continue, the risk of wildfires is increasing rapidly. When fire danger is moderate, fires start quickly and spread readily with wind. With rain, comes rapidly growing vegetation that can quickly dry out with hot, windy days. Be sure to keep your properties well maintained and be aware of tall, dry grass and vegetation.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Currently in Missoula County there are not any fire restrictions, but all outdoor burning is closed. Fire restrictions are set in place due to a high potential for fires to start and spread. Specific fire restrictions can vary agency to agency and can be viewed on the map linked below. General fire restrictions include Stage 1 and Stage 2 fire restrictions. Stage 1 fire restrictions prohibit: building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire and smoking unless in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed smoking site, or while stopped in a cleared and barren area of all flammable materials of 3 ft in diameter. Under Stage 2 restrictions, the following are prohibited: those listed under Stage 1 restrictions, operating motorized vehicles off of designated roads and trails, and, from 1:00 pm to 1:00 am, it is prohibited to operate any internal combustion engine, use explosives, or weld or operate acetylene or other torch with an open flame. There are exemptions and violations for each stage of restrictions which can be found on the attached link.

HUMAN CAUSED FIRES

On average, 3 out of 4 wildland fires are human caused in Missoula County. The leading causes are: debris burning, escaped or abandoned campfires, equipment or vehicle use, and fireworks. Remember that all open fires, including campfires and wood fueled fire pits are prohibited within city limits, in accordance with Missoula Municipal Code 8.60. Ensure all campfires outside of city limits are fully out and cold before leaving the campsite. Take extra precautions to ensure your trailer safety chains are the appropriate length and not dragging, as dragging trailer chains are a common cause of fires near roadways. If you still have leftover fireworks after the holiday, remember to practice firework safety and be sure fireworks are allowed in your area.

**WE WILL FOREVER REMEMBER
THE 3 FIREFIGHTERS THAT LOST
THEIR LIVES ON THE COLORADO-
UTAH BORDER FIRE.**

LINKS

**MISSOULA
RURAL FIRE
DISTRICT**

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**FIRE AND
SMOKE MAP**

**HOME
IGNITION
ZONE**

**FIRE
RESTRICTIONS
MAP**

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES
MEETING
SCHEDULE**