

MARION COUNTY, OR. – Marion County Fire Defense Board Chief Bill Miles has issued an outdoor burn ban effective immediately, July 24, 2018, in all areas of Marion County.

The Marion County Fire Defense Board in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Forestry has issued a county-wide burn ban effective, July 24, 2018 due to forecasted high temperatures, limited rainfall and ongoing dry conditions. Oregon Department of Forestry has moved to Extreme Fire Danger and IFPL 3.

The burn ban includes recreational campfires, fire pits, yard debris, agricultural burning and permits issued for open burning until further notice. Check with your local Fire Department/District for more information. For the most current information, please call the Burn Information Line at (877) 982-0011.

Restrictions include:

- All campfires, warming fires, cooking fires and the use of charcoal briquettes are prohibited. Contact your local fire agency for special situations.
- Campers are permitted to use portable cooking stoves with liquefied or bottled fuels only that can be turned off with a valve.
- Backyard burning (yard debris, etc.)
- Agricultural burning, regulated through Department of Agriculture, contact your local fire agency for special situations.
- Land clearing or slash burning.
- Recreational fires, including:
 - Backyard fire pits
 - Outdoor fireplaces and portable fireplaces (Chimineas, etc.)

Federal agencies have independent jurisdiction and authority to regulate recreational fires on their lands so this ban does not apply to the US Forest Service and BLM regulated lands.

Individuals found to be in violation of these requirements during the burn ban may be held liable for the cost of extinguishment and for any property damage resulting from an illegal fire.

The burn ban will remain in effect until weather conditions minimize the fire danger.

Those living in rural areas are asked to maintain their defensible space by monitoring growth surrounding homes and structures, and to maintain adequate access for firefighting equipment

- * Know fire risks and obey fire restrictions, such as campfire bans.
- * Avoid parking or driving on dry grass as hot vehicles can start a wildfire.
- * Vehicles are required to have a shovel and fire extinguisher or at least a gallon of water in many areas.
- * Do not use candles, fireworks, tiki torches, or other open flames in wildland areas.
- * Remember that sky lanterns are illegal in Oregon airspace.
- * Dispose of smoking material in deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- * Make sure butts and ashes are extinguished with water and sand.
- * Never discard butts on the ground or in vegetation.

For more wildfire prevention information and restrictions, we encourage you to visit Keep Oregon Green at www.keeporegongreen.org and the Oregon Department of Forestry at www.oregon.gov.