



City of Missoula Fire Department

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To: All Media Outlets
From: Gordy Hughes, City of Missoula Fire Chief
Re: Wildland Fire Emergency Response & Preparedness

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fire Danger Downgraded to High: Stage II Fire Restrictions Lifted

Missoula, MT August 6, 2024 – In response to recent precipitation and current fuel conditions, fire danger in the City of Missoula has been downgraded to High. As a result, Missoula County and local government fire agencies as part of the Missoula County Fire Protection Association (MCFPA), have coordinated the lifting of Stage II fire restrictions effective tonight at midnight tonight.

"This is always a difficult decision to make, especially since we are only in the early part of August," said Fire Chief, Gordy Hughes. "While current conditions allow us to ease some restrictions, we urge residents and visitors to remain vigilant and cautious."

The decision to lift Stage II fire restrictions is based on thorough analysis and collaboration between local fire agencies. However, it is important to note that this may be a temporary reprieve. With the ongoing potential for dry and hazardous conditions, there is a significant possibility that Stage II restrictions may need to be reinstated if weather conditions change.

Residents and visitors are reminded to stay informed about current fire danger levels and adhere to all fire safety guidelines. Your cooperation is crucial in preventing wildfires and ensuring the safety of our community.

Stay Informed:

- Sign up for emergency alerts: Visit www.smart911.com to sign up.
- Emergency Preparedness: Visit www.mtfireinfo.org or <https://www.ready.gov/wildfires> to learn how to prepare and protect you, your loved ones, and your property

- Monitor critical weather: Visit www.weather.gov

Additional Resources:

- Visit the Missoula Fire Department's Fire Prevention website: www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2398/Fire-Prevention-Awareness
- The Missoula County Office of Emergency Management has comprehensive information on how to protect your family during an emergency or disaster. Call 406-258-INFO or visit their site: www.missoulacounty.us/government/public-safety/office-of-emergency-management
- Attend community meetings and/or workshops in your area to plan and prepare for wildland fires.
- For information and frequently asked questions regarding Stage II Fire restrictions, visit: <https://ci.missoula.mt.us/3358/STAGE-II-Fire-Restrictions>

About the Missoula Fire Department:

The mission of the Missoula Fire Department is to save lives, protect property, ease pain and suffering.

For more information or to provide any information, please contact:

Gordy Hughes, Fire Chief

Dax Fraser, Fire Marshal

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