



VANCOUVER FIRE MARSHAL ISSUES RECREATIONAL BURN BAN

News Release from **City of Vancouver**

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Vancouver, Wash. – Due to extremely dry conditions, Vancouver Fire Marshal Heidi Scarpelli has issued a total ban on recreational burning, effective at 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 29 for the city of Vancouver.

The burning ban is based on weather conditions, fuel moisture content in vegetation and community fire safety needs. It will likely remain in effect throughout the summer months or until weather and fire danger conditions greatly improve. Citations may be issued to those who violate the order. An update will be provided when the recreational burn ban is lifted.

These types of fires are prohibited during the ban:

- Recreational fires and bonfires
- Campfires
- Fires in outdoor fireplaces, fire pits and chimney-type devices

Cooking outdoors in propane or charcoal barbecues approved for that type of use is still allowed during the burning ban. Cooking and heating fires in unmanaged situations, such as homeless camps, are illegal under city ordinance and will be extinguished.

“The risk for fire is high and state officials have said that this year’s wildfire season has the potential to be challenging as the fine fuels continue to cure,” said Vancouver Fire Marshal Heidi Scarpelli. “It is vital that everyone be extra vigilant about fire safety during this time. In addition to not using any recreational fires, we also ask that smokers never put out their cigarettes in bark mulch or planters or toss lit cigarettes out car windows.”

While the recreational burn ban is in place, all fires will be illegal within the city limits. Community members are encouraged to call 9-1-1 and report any fire-related activity so it can be promptly extinguished by the fire department.

Those who violate the recreational burn ban may be subject to a fire code citation and a \$500 fine, which may include criminal penalties.

Learn more about fire and life safety prevention at www.vanfire.org.

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