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Prescribed Wildland and Essential Agriculture Burning Season OPEN; Fire Danger Remains LOW

September 12, 2023 -- Missoula, Montana – Effective today, Prescribed Wildland and Essential Agriculture Burning within Missoula County is open. Burning of yard waste and piles are prohibited due to air quality effects. Prescribed wildland burning occurs on forested land or undeveloped rangeland to improve habitat and range conditions, reduce slash from logging, and improve forest regeneration. Essential agriculture burning occurs on a farm/ranch to remove excess vegetation from cultivated fields and improve range/wildlife habitat.

For landowners that fall within the Prescribed Wildland or Essential Agriculture categories, a burn permit is still required and needs to be activated the day of your burn. Burn permits can be obtained at <https://app.egovmt.com/burnpermit/> and permits must be activated for each day and location you are burning. Fire danger is currently Low, but a forecasted warming and drying trend could cause that to elevate. Stay safe while burning by monitoring fire danger; having water, a shovel and hand tools readily available; and always monitor for changing weather conditions. Burning within Missoula City Limits is prohibited unless you own more than one acre of land.

For more information on burning safety tips and burn seasons in Missoula County, visit: mcfpa.org/burn_permits.

Missoula County does not manage prescribed burns on public lands, such as those conducted on Forest Service, BLM or State lands. These agencies are considered “major burners” and are managed by the airshed management system.

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