

Tuesday, October 29, 2024



NJDEP Fire Ban on All Public Lands and Private Properties in All Municipalities Throughout the State

EXTREME FIRE RISK FOR UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Together we can ensure a festive fall Holiday season - including Diwali and Halloween events – while safeguarding our communities.

- 🔥 All **outdoor fires are prohibited** unless they are contained in an elevated stove using only propane, natural gas or electricity. This includes bon fires and residential fire pits.
- 🔥 **No wood or charcoal fires are allowed**, and the use of kerosene or gas torches of any kind is prohibited while this level of restriction is in place.
- 🔥 **No firework celebrations** are allowed.
- 🔥 The fire ban is in place on **all public lands and private properties** in all municipalities throughout the state.

Please amplify and share this information with your residents.

Most wildfires can be avoided by adhering to these commonsense safety tips:

1. Don't discard cigarettes, matches or smoking materials on the ground.
1. Use indoor wood stoves and fireplaces carefully, both can emit embers that spark fires. Fully douse ashes with water before disposal.
1. Be mindful where you park or drive your vehicle. Hot exhaust systems can ignite dry vegetation if parked or driven over it.
1. Be careful when cutting your grass or using other yard tools. Power tools like lawnmowers and chainsaws can throw off sparks that ignite dry grass or leaves.
1. Keep matches and lighters away from children.

Please see the attached memo distributed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Fire Safety, which further clarifies the ongoing fire restrictions throughout the state, and addresses municipalities outside of the Forest Fire Service's primary response areas.

Fire officials and inspectors in jurisdictions located within any NJ Forest Fire Service secondary response area (see map) should exercise extreme caution when considering the approval of any of the referenced permits. Similar hazards may still exist which can cause or contribute to the rapid spread of other types of fire. If there is any chance of fire spread during this dry period, permits should be denied as a precautionary measure. As an extra measure of caution, the Division of Fire Safety recommends increasing fire suppression measures for any permits approved.

Additionally, please find attached to this email a recommended social media posting that we would ask you to post to your municipal social media outlets.

For more information about how to protect your community from wildfire visit njwildfire.org