

Washington County
Administration Department
Office of Emergency Management

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**The Washington Co. Fire Chiefs Assoc. and
Washington Co. Office of Emergency Management
Issue a Fire Danger Advisory**

Please refrain from outdoor burning/use of fireworks until further notice

WEST BEND – Due to the extremely dry conditions throughout Washington County, the Washington County Fire Chiefs Association and the Washington County Office of Emergency Management are jointly issuing a Fire Danger Advisory. All residents of the county are being asked to refrain from any type of outdoor burning and/or use of fireworks or other types of incendiary devices. With the lack of recent rainfall, conditions are very conducive to rapid fire spread and extreme fire behavior.

From the Washington County Chiefs perspective, all open flames and ignition sources in the outdoors should be avoided. If any outdoor controlled burning needs to be done, it should be pre-approved by your local Fire Department and directly supervised by Fire Department personnel. With the 4th of July holiday approaching; the celebration with ground and aerial fireworks displays can cause quick spreading fires that get out of control rapidly.

These types of preventable emergencies can cause undue stress on local Fire Departments and their resources. The extreme temperatures forecast for the next few days further tax responders and increase the number needed to respond to each incident. Residents must be aware of the dangers associated with the use of fireworks in these extremely dry and sensitive conditions and are urged to consider fire safe alternative ways to celebrate our country's Independence Holiday.

The Washington County Fire Chiefs Association is asking all residents to please follow these precautions so everyone can enjoy a fire safe holiday. They should be followed until conditions improve and adequate precipitation restores the ground cover.

If people have any questions regarding this advisory, they should contact their local Fire Department.

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