

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE

DATE: August 5th, 2019

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541.552.2066 or 541.890.8816

Fire Danger Level Moves to EXTREME today, Monday August 5th: Total Public Shut Down Begins

The fire danger level in the City of Ashland will increase to “Extreme” (Red) today, Monday August 5th at 12:01 AM.

The primary difference between current fire prevention restrictions and the restrictions that are now in place, is that it affects the public use of power-driven equipment, such as chain saws and mowers, to name a few. The use of power-driven equipment, grinding, cutting of metal, and other spark-emitting equipment, such as wood splitters and generators, will be prohibited in any area of dry vegetation at all times.

Here are the details of the adjusted fire restrictions taking effect August 5th:

- **The use of power saws is prohibited.**
- **The cutting, grinding and welding of metal is prohibited.**
- **The mowing of dry or dead grass is prohibited.**
- **The operation of any other spark-emitting internal combustion engine not specifically mentioned above is prohibited.**

The following public use restrictions remain in effect:

- **Outdoor Debris Burning is Prohibited** - The fire rings in Lithia Park and any privately operated raised outdoor wood burning appliances are NOT permitted to be used at this time. These are all prohibited during high and extreme fire danger.
- **Fireworks and sky lanterns are prohibited** at all times, throughout the year within the City of Ashland.

ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE

455 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 482-2770 • Fax (541) 488-5318
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- Smoking is prohibited in areas of dry vegetation, except in vehicles on improved roads, in boats on the water, and in designated locations.
- Motor vehicles, including motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles, may only be used on improved roads free of flammable vegetation, except when used for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops.
- Any electric fence controller in use shall be listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory or be certified by the Department of Consumer and Business Services; and operated in compliance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Possession of the following firefighting equipment is required while traveling, except on state highways, county roads and driveways: one shovel and one gallon of water or one 2.5 pound or larger fire extinguisher. All-terrain vehicles and motorcycles must be equipped with one 2.5 pound or larger fire extinguisher.

Find the most current restrictions at www.ashland.or.us/fireseason or by contacting Ashland Fire & Rescue at 541-482-2770. Ashland Fire & Rescue asks that all Ashland residents remember the [Ready, Set, Go!](#) evacuation levels. Be prepared for the possibility of evacuation at READY or Level 1. Be READY now by preparing an emergency and personal supplies kit, develop an evacuation plan, and become [Firewise](#) by removing combustible plants and debris around your home and from the roof. Find more information about Ready, Set, Go! at ashland.or.us/evacuation.

Additional information can be obtained as follows:

- **Check our website** www.ashland.or.us/fireseason
- **Ashland Firewise** – www.ashlandfirewise.org
- **Wildfire Hotline** – **541-552-2490** – provides information on fires currently burning in Ashland and the surrounding area during summer.
- **Emergency Broadcast Radio** – **1700 AM** – provides information on current emergencies affecting the citizens of Ashland. This low wattage broadcast can only be heard in Ashland.

Regional fire information can be found at the ODF website: www.swofire.com

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