



Custer County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Lloyd R. Smith
Undersheriff Susan C. Barnes

Custer County Fire Restrictions: STAGE 1

Beginning October 24, 2023 at 4:00PM, Custer County will initiate Stage 1 fire restrictions. After discussions with the area fire chiefs, Sheriff Smith has concurred there is a risk of wildfires due to lack of moisture, dried vegetation and the continued possibility of winds. Furthermore, we want to save our limited volunteer fire fighter resources to battle the St Charles Fire near San Isabel once it enters Custer County. We also respectfully request that there be no agricultural burning or burning of debris piles.

STAGE I RESTRICTIONS: Prohibit the following activities:

Open burning, building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, or campfire, charcoal grills, pellet grills, and wood or coal burning stoves or fireplaces in undeveloped areas. Areas cleared of all flammable materials, and those within permanently constructed fire grates or developed campgrounds and picnic grounds are excepted as noted in Section 9 (Unlawful Acts).

Campfires and gas fire pits contained in constructed permanent fire pits or fire grates within a developed recreation area shall be allowed. Residential fireplace ashes must be soaked in water prior to disposal.

Grills using propane, pellets, and other bottled fuels shall be allowed, but only in areas free of flammable vegetation and other flammable materials, and such fires must be used and maintained in such a manner that no fire danger is presented to the surrounding area.

All open fires allowed by subparagraphs (B) and (C) above must be attended at all times, and an adequate water supply and/or a fire extinguisher shall be on site at all times while such an open fire is burning.

All burning of trash, refuse or debris shall be suspended.

Smoking shall be suspended except within an enclosed vehicle, building, or outdoor smoking area that is hard-surfaced or barren or otherwise cleared of all flammable vegetation or material. Discarding smoking materials in a receptacle not designed for disposal of smoking materials, discarding smoking materials from a moving or stationary motor vehicle, and discarding smoking materials in any other outdoor location is expressly prohibited.

The use of explosive materials including fireworks, solid fuel rockets, blasting caps, or any other incendiary device which may result in the ignition of flammable materials shall be suspended.

Outdoor welding, grinding, or use of any type of torch in any area which presents the possibility of igniting vegetation or other combustible material shall be suspended unless there is an adequate water supply and/or fire extinguisher on site.

Operating any outdoor equipment or machinery with an internal combustion engine in an undeveloped area shall be suspended unless said equipment or machinery is equipped with a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in good working order.

The sale, possession, and use of fireworks defined in C.R.S. §30-15-401(l)(n.7).

702 Rosita Ave - #1489
Westcliffe, Colorado. 81252
719-783-2270

