

WDNR ISSUES BURNING RESTRICTIONS EFFECTIVE MARCH 27, 2020

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As you know, spring in Wisconsin has the highest fire risk with the No. 1 cause of wildfires being debris burning. Most debris fires occur in the spring after the snow-cover melts and before vegetation greening. Spring is also when people are outside doing yard clean-up and then choosing to burn leaves, brush and pine needles. Wildfires pose a serious threat to public safety, property and our natural resources. People cause over 98% of all wildfires in Wisconsin.

Due to the COVID-19 Safer at Home order, we are taking proactive measures by suspending all Department of Natural Resources burning permits until further notice to protect the health and safety of Wisconsinites. All burning of debris in barrels, burning of debris piles on the ground, grass or wooded areas is prohibited at this time.

Emergency responders and firefighters have an increased need to take pandemic precautions, so they remain available to continue to protect the public from wildfires and reduce the spread of COVID-19. We appreciate your patience and understanding. Distance is key during this public health emergency. Under the Safer at Home order, we must do all that we can to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. For specific information regarding the COVID-19 we encourage the public to frequently monitor the DHS website for updates, and to follow @DHSWI on Facebook and Twitter, or dhs.wi on Instagram. Additional information can be found on the CDC website.

Stay up to date on fire danger in Wisconsin by bookmarking our fire danger website: **dnr.wi.gov**, keyword "fire danger." If you're aware of a wildfire, dial 911 immediately!

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BURNING PERMITS SUSPENDED

Lower fire risk
increases emergency
response & firefighter
safety

REDUCED FIRE OCCURRENCES

Less human
contact increases
public safety

= REDUCED COVID-19 EXPOSURE

Campfires for warming or cooking strongly discouraged.
dnr.wi.gov, search "fire"