



Date: August 12, 2019

For Immediate Release

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## Fire Danger Lowered to HIGH in Missoula County

## **Debris Burning Remains CLOSED**

**August 12, 2019, 1:30 PM- Missoula, Montana –** After recent widespread rain, interagency wildland fire officials with the Missoula County Fire Protection Association (MCFPA) are reporting lower fire danger indices within Missoula County, such that fire danger rating has been lowered to HIGH, effective immediately.

The move does not indicate an end to fire season. Grass and fine fuels can dry quickly with a return to seasonally warm and dry conditions, so outdoor debris burning by permit in the Missoula area remains closed. This past week there have been multiple fires caused by leaving campfires unattended, burning debris piles without a valid permit, and dragging chains. We'd like to put an end to human caused ignitions this season, so please do your part.

Residents need to know that our local wildland firefighters still face a fire season even without having to respond to human-caused fires. Everyone needs to take special care when engaged in activities that could ignite a wildfire. Remember: one less spark, one less wildfire. If you're towing a trailer during the summer season, please make sure the trailer is well maintained and that you are not dragging trailer chains. Campfires are allowed in the area, but they should never be left unattended until they are dead-out, cold to the touch.

Folks can also like the Missoula County Fire Protection Association on Facebook and get information on our webpage: <a href="www.mcfpa.org">www.mcfpa.org</a>.

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