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Morton County Declares Fire Emergency and Burn Ban

Mandan, N.D. – After reviewing Morton County’s current fire conditions and the area weather forecast, the Morton County Commission has declared a Fire Emergency and Burn Ban effectively banning the starting of fires in an unenclosed space, including burning of leaves, grass clippings, garbage pits, construction debris, fallen trees, crop residue or hay land, sloughs and bonfires.

The burn ban takes effect immediately and until further notice. This Fire Emergency and Burn Ban declaration is in effect when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the High, Very High or Extreme category and/or a Red Flag Warning has been issued for Morton County.

“In addition to this ban, the Morton County Parks Director has posted additional burning restrictions at Morton County Parks dependent upon the fire danger, and it could change once or more during any given day,” Morton County Emergency Manager Tom Doering said.

This ban does not include manufactured devices that control or confine the fire such as gas, charcoal or wood fired grills, screened patio fireplaces and chimineas, gas camp stoves and smokers within the city limits of Almont, Flasher, Hebron, Mandan and New Salem. This ban also does not include gas grills outside of city limits. This is a perpetual burn ban that will remain in effect until further notice.

The daily Fire Danger Rating can be found at the following Web site:
<https://www.nd.gov/des/planning/fire-danger-awareness/Default.asp>

Any burning within the restricted area during the imposed ban is considered a Class B Misdemeanor, (NDCC 37-17.1-10-.1) with a maximum sentence of 30 days in jail and a \$1,500 fine.

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