



COUNTY'S OPEN AIR BURN BAN REMAINS IN EFFECT

MontgomeryCountyVA.gov

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Montgomery County, Virginia – Montgomery County's open air burn ban remains in effect due to dry conditions that persist despite recent rain. The burn ban went into effect July 5.

"The County is under a drought watch," said Emergency Services Coordinator Neal Turner. "Residents should be aware of the increased danger for wildfires and take proper precautions. The burn ban prohibits burning trash or debris and open campfires."

In addition, residents should be aware that machinery, including lawn mowers and grain harvesting equipment, can cause a spark, or be a source of intense heat, such as a vehicle exhaust system. Towing a trailer, welding and playing with sparklers/fireworks are just as likely to result in a wildfire at this time as burning debris/trash, Turner added.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality issued a statewide drought watch July 14 since most of the State has experienced below normal precipitation in the past 60 days. The U.S. Drought Monitor also indicates that about 86 percent of the Commonwealth is experiencing abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions.

Through the drought watch declaration, the State is encouraging localities and residents to voluntarily take steps to reduce water usage.

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