

**WHATCOM COUNTY**  
Planning & Development Services  
Fire Marshal's Office  
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**J.E. "Sam" Ryan**  
Director/Fire Marshal

## **WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE NEWS RELEASE**

### **Dry conditions and summer weather will call for burn restrictions.**

Whatcom County – Due to the warm weather conditions ahead and decreasing fuel moisture levels, the Whatcom County Fire Marshal's Office will be enacting restrictions on all open burning in unincorporated Whatcom County starting at 8:00 AM on Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

All land clearing and yard debris burning must be discontinued at that time.

Recreational fires will still be allowed in designated campgrounds and on improved properties with the landowner's permission. Recreational fires are fires that are less than 3 feet in diameter, burning only seasoned firewood or charcoal, and are built in an approved fire enclosure. To find out the requirements for an approved enclosure please call the **burn ban information line at (360) 778-5903**.

Violations of these burn restrictions can result in a minimum \$250.00 fine. In addition if you have an illegal fire that escapes or needs to be extinguished by the fire department, you may be held financially responsible for fire suppression costs, as well as criminally responsible.

As an additional reminder, all fireworks discharge must be stopped by 11:00 PM tonight, July 5<sup>th</sup> for unincorporated Whatcom County.

If you have any questions on open burning in unincorporated Whatcom County, please contact the Whatcom County Fire Marshal's Office at 360-778-5900 or visit our website at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/381/Fire-Marshal>.

Have a safe and fun rest of the summer.

Date: July 5, 2017  
For Immediate Release  
Contact: Mitch Nolze, Fire Inspector