



**DEB | Decatur Emergency Brigade**  
Community Communication  
June 29, 2025

**Dear Decatur Neighbors,**

**This message includes friendly reminders many of you have seen before — but when it comes to fire safety, it's always worth repeating. As we prepare to celebrate the 4th of July, the Decatur Emergency Brigade (DEB) wishes you a joyful and safe holiday weekend. Whether you're gathering with neighbors, hosting visitors, or enjoying quiet time on the island, please take a few minutes to review these essential fire safety updates.**

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## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

### **FIRST: CALL 911**

INSTRUCT DISPATCH THAT YOU ARE ON  
**DECATUR ISLAND, SAN JUAN COUNTY**

note your street address here:

### **SECOND: CALL DEB 360-218-3081**

THIS CALL CENTER WILL NOTIFY DEB  
VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST

\*personal information shared with this number is not private or confidential



updated 7/25  
www.deb.team



download and print above "In Case Of Emergency" Guide

[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

### **WHO TO CALL FOR FIRE RESPONSE**

#### **Step 1: Call 911**

Clearly state you are on **Decatur Island in San Juan County** to reach the correct dispatch.

#### **Step 2: Call DEB directly at 360-218-3081**

This alerts our local volunteer responders.

 **Important: 911 dispatch does not notify DEB**  
— both calls must be made.

**Be sure to add to your mobile device and post these numbers in your home, shop, and vehicles.**

Emergency cards will be available at [www.deb.team](http://www.deb.team), the Mail Shack, and **at the July 4th Parade.**



### **CURRENT FIRE THREAT & RECREATIONAL FIRE STATUS**

As of today, **June 29th**, the **fire danger level is MODERATE** according to SJC and DNR.

**! This may change by 4th of July weekend. !**

**✓ Recreational fires are permitted**, with strict guidelines:

- Fires must be in a metal or certified fire-safe bowl
- Located on bare soil or gravel, away from vegetation
- Max size: **3' x 3'**
- Must be attended at all times with a water source nearby
- Fully extinguish before leaving (cold to the touch)

**⊘ Debris and slash burning** is prohibited after **May 31st** through **October 2025**.

#### **For up-to-date info:**

[San Juan County Burn Info](#)  
[SJC Fire Marshal + Fire Danger](#)  
[WA DNR Fire Danger Map](#)



## ⚠️ SAFETY TIPS FOR FIRE PREVENTION

### Recreational Fires:

- Keep a shovel and hose nearby
- Never leave a fire unattended
- Avoid fires during high wind
- Have a pressurized water extinguisher nearby
- Extinguish completely — douse, stir, repeat until cold

### Lawn Mowing / Yard Equipment:

- Avoid mowing during peak heat or in dry grass
- Use spark arrestors on mowers, trimmers, chainsaws
- Refuel only after engines have cooled

### Vehicles:

- Do not park on dry grass
- Check for dragging chains, fluid leaks, or hot exhausts
- Carry an extinguisher in your vehicle at all times

## 🔋 ADDITIONAL PREPAREDNESS

- Test and replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Educate guests and renters on how to activate DEB

## MAKE A DONATION

### ABOUT DEB: OUR MISSION & GOALS

The Decatur Emergency Brigade (DEB) is a community-based volunteer organization dedicated to protecting Decatur Island through fire prevention, emergency readiness, and response. Our goals are to:

- Build and maintain a trained network of local responders
- Promote public awareness and education around fire safety
- Advocate for infrastructure and resources that support island-wide emergency preparedness
- Collaborate with county and regional partners to ensure coordinated response

Together, we work to ensure Decatur is safer, stronger, and more resilient in the face of fire risks.



 **FIND US AT THE JULY 4TH PARADE!**

DEB will be in the parade distributing:  
Updated emergency contact cards

We're also kicking off our 2025 fundraising campaign to support training, insurance, gear, and equipment. Your donations directly support community readiness and safety.

We wish you a safe, joyful, and fire-smart holiday weekend!

With appreciation and care,  
The DEB Board of Directors

Alan Mizuta • Dave Craggs • Mark Wall •  
Michelle Harden • Jon Allen • Rod Lopez

[www.deb.team](http://www.deb.team)



## ESSENTIAL FIRE EQUIPMENT FOR HOME & VEHICLE

Every island property and vehicle should be equipped with basic firefighting tools:

### Fire Extinguishers:

**ABC-rated or 2.5-gallon Class A** extinguishers for homes  
**Compact model** for carts, UTVs, and vehicles

A **pressurized water-based extinguisher** is strongly recommended for ease of use and effectiveness on common island fires. These are simple to operate and effective for early containment of grass or small structural fires.

### Fire Blankets:

Ideal for **kitchens, BBQ areas, and studios**  
Quickly smother small cooking or grease fires  
Available on occasion at the **Decatur Saturday Market**  
(Dawni Williams often has them)  
Also available **online** through most major retailers

### Post "In Case of Emergency" Card

The DEB number: **360-218-3081**  
Emergency call order: **911, then DEB**  
Your island address