

MOHAVE COUNTY IMPLEMENTS OUTDOOR FIRE AND PERMISSIBLE CONSUMER FIREWORKS BAN

KINGMAN. Mohave County is implementing outdoor fire and permissible consumer fireworks use prohibitions in the unincorporated areas of the county, effective 8 a.m., May 26, 2022, due to very high fire danger conditions caused by the ongoing drought, high winds, and low vegetation fuel moistures.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Ron Gould signed a Proclamation dated May 23, 2022, implementing the prohibitions. The prohibitions were recommended by the Mohave County Risk and Emergency Management Department, which issued a Determination of Fire Emergency for all four Fire Zones in the County on May 23, 2022. This Determination was issued following consultation with the fire departments in the County and the Bureau of Land Management.

The prohibitions, with the exemptions listed below, apply to all open fires, campfires, and permissible consumer fireworks use in the unincorporated area of the County, which excludes lands under the jurisdiction of the United States, the State of Arizona, or Indian Tribes.

The Bureau of Land Management Colorado River District and the Arizona Forestry and Fire Management Department will implement Stage 2 Fire Restrictions, including an open fire ban, on May 26, 2022. Specific information relating to fire restrictions in Arizona can be found at wildlandfire.az.gov.

The Mohave County Risk and Emergency Management Department strongly encourages county residents to be constantly alert to the fire danger, respect the prohibitions, and take all precautions to avoid accidentally igniting a vegetation fire. Aside from open fire and fireworks ignitions, many fires are ignited along roadways due to improper disposal of smoking materials.

Violations of the prohibitions, which were implemented under the authority of Mohave County Ordinance 2013-04, are considered Class 2 misdemeanors subject to fines not to exceed \$750 and/or terms of imprisonment not to exceed 4 months.

The following fires are exempt from the Outdoor Fire Prohibition enacted pursuant to the Proclamation:

1. Fires set or permitted by any public officer, federal, state or local, in the performance of the officer's official duties.
2. Fires set or permitted by the State Entomologist or Mohave County agricultural agents for the purpose of disease and pest prevention.
3. Fires set or permitted by the United States, the State of Arizona, or any federally-recognized Indian tribe, or any of their respective departments, agencies or political subdivisions for the purpose of fire prevention or control, or watershed rehabilitation or control through vegetative manipulation.
4. Fires permitted by the Emergency Management Officer or designee. The conditions of the permit, including permitted dates and the nature of the burning shall be clearly stated on any such permit issued.
5. Fires fueled by propane or charcoal.
6. Permissible consumer fireworks shall be allowed on July 4th in elevations below 4,000 feet above sea level.

Questions can be directed to Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Browning at BrownM@mohave.gov or Risk and Emergency Management Director Byron Steward at stewab@mohave.gov. The Risk and Emergency Management Department number is 928-753-0739.