

POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY, IOWA
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

PRESS RELEASE

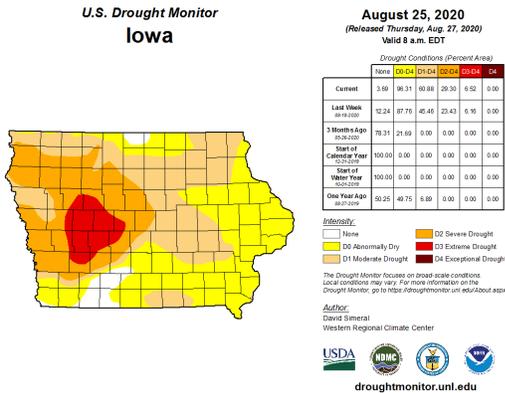
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY IMPLEMENTS BURNING BAN

[COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA, September 1, 2020] – An open burning ban will be in place for Pottawattamie County starting Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The ban prohibits all open and controlled burning in Pottawattamie County, Iowa; including all incorporated city limits within the county.

The current drought conditions throughout the county in combination with unharvested crops present an increased risk for the potential of rapid fire spread. Controlled fires can quickly become uncontrollable. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) program, Pottawattamie County is currently classified in the Severe Drought (D2) classification. More information on current drought conditions can be found at <https://www.drought.gov/drought/states/iowa>.



"Pottawattamie County has seen the devastating effects of fire in extreme conditions and we want to do everything we can to help mitigate incidents like that from occurring" stated Emergency Management Director Doug Reed.

During these dry conditions, citizens are reminded to not throw out cigarettes from moving vehicles and to discontinue burning yard waste, piled tree debris, grass/agricultural ground and set-asides or other items during the ban. Small recreational camp fires are permitted only if they are conducted in a fire place of brick, metal or heavy one-inch wire mesh. Any camp fire not in an outdoor fire place is prohibited.



The Emergency Management Agency's mission is to help protect communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recovery from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters.

Violation of a burn ban can subject a person to citation or arrest for reckless use of fire or disobeying a burn ban.

For updated information on burn bans and the law you can find further information on our facebook, twitter, and web pages. The ban will remain in place until environmental conditions improve.

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