

EMAIL DISTRIBUTION VERSION

Subject: Statewide Burn Ban in Effect for Washington and Island County: Help Prevent Wildfires

Dear Island County Residents and Community Partners,

The State of Washington has implemented a **statewide burn ban**, including **Island County**, due to extreme wildfire danger, ongoing drought conditions, high temperatures, and critically dry vegetation. The proclamation prohibits most outdoor burning activities through **September 30, 2026**, and is intended to reduce the risk of human-caused wildfires during these dangerous conditions. [\[dnr.wa.gov\]](https://dnr.wa.gov), [\[komonews.com\]](https://komonews.com)

Washington has already experienced one of its busiest wildfire seasons on record, with firefighters and emergency response resources heavily committed across the state. Under current conditions, a single spark can quickly develop into a fast-moving wildfire that threatens lives, homes, businesses, critical infrastructure, and natural resources. [\[dnr.wa.gov\]](https://dnr.wa.gov), [\[firerisk.ai\]](https://firerisk.ai)

Preventing human-caused wildfires is the most immediate and effective action available to reduce wildfire risk. Island County residents and visitors are reminded that outdoor burning covered under the statewide burn ban is prohibited. Protecting our communities begins with each of us making responsible choices.

How You Can Help

- Do not burn yard debris, brush, or garbage.
- Follow all state and local burn restrictions.
- Avoid activities that may generate sparks in dry vegetation.
- Properly dispose of cigarettes and smoking materials.
- Keep vehicles and trailers off dry grass.
- Use caution when operating outdoor equipment.
- Report signs of wildfire immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Be Prepared

The Washington Military Department's Emergency Management Division encourages all residents to stay informed, sign up for local emergency alerts, and have an emergency plan in place. Receiving timely emergency notifications and knowing what to do during an emergency can help protect your family, pets, and property. [\[pnwdaily.com\]](https://pnwdaily.com), [\[dnr.wa.gov\]](https://dnr.wa.gov)

Resources

Governor Ferguson's Statewide Burn Ban Proclamation

<https://governor.wa.gov/news/2026/governor-ferguson-declares-statewide-wildfire-emergency-issues-statewide-burn-ban> [\[dnr.wa.gov\]](https://dnr.wa.gov)

Washington State Department of Natural Resources Burn Restrictions

<https://dnr.wa.gov/wildfire-resources/outdoor-burning/burn-restrictions> [\[komonews.com\]](https://komonews.com)

Washington State Wildfire Prevention Resources

<https://dnr.wa.gov/wildfire-resources/wildfire-prevention> [\[firerisk.ai\]](https://firerisk.ai)

Washington DNR Wildfire Portal

<https://dnr.wa.gov/wildfire-resources/current-wildfire-incident-information/wildfire-portal>
[\[govonestop.com\]](https://govonestop.com)

Washington Emergency Alerts and Preparedness Information

<https://mil.wa.gov/alerts> [\[pnwdaily.com\]](https://pnwdaily.com)

Island County Department of Emergency Management

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/DEM>

Wildfires are preventable. By following the statewide burn ban and practicing wildfire-safe behaviors, we can help protect our families, neighbors, first responders, and the places we call home.

Help Keep Island County Safe. Follow the Burn Ban. Stay Informed. Be Prepared. Don't Be the Spark.

Sincerely,

Island County Department of Emergency Management

Protecting Our Communities Through Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation

