

Columbia County Fire Defense Board

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The recent fall like rains in Columbia County along with the cooler overnight temperatures, increase in nighttime moisture, and anticipated rainfall, which has improved the moisture content of the local ground cover are allowing local fire districts to terminate the burn ban in the county. Debris burning will be allowed again beginning Monday, October 12, 2020 with a valid burning permit as decided by local fire districts. The previous burn ban lift is based on weather conditions and community fire safety needs. Keeping in mind the recent wildfires throughout Oregon, however, please ensure any outdoor burning is conducted as safely as possible.

Recreational campfires, fire pits, and agricultural burning is now permitted on DEQ approved burn days. Yard debris and open burning is allowed only in permitted areas. Yard debris and open burning is only permitted in the City of St. Helens and the City of Columbia City on given burn days, please be sure you check the regulations in your specific area before burning. **Burning household garbage, plastics, petroleum products and rubber products is prohibited.**

Those burning are encouraged to use caution when burning debris piles. Any open burning must be attended by a non-impaired, responsible adult. A water source and hand tool to suppress any escaped fires should also be kept on site during any open burning. The public is encouraged to remain vigilant for changing weather conditions and use caution when burning.

Escaped fires of any kind resulting in property damage or requiring suppression efforts from a fire agency, may result in fines and individual financial responsibility for damages caused.

For additional information regarding 2020 fire season please visit
<https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/Restrictions.aspx>