

Jefferson County Community Development Office of the Fire Marshal

621 Sheridan St • Port Townsend WA 98368 www.co.jefferson.wa.us/1687 | 360.379.4450

Jefferson County Fire Danger levels and Restrictions

Low Green

Low fire risk, No restrictions.



When the fire danger is "low" it means that fuels do not ignite easily from small embers, but a more intense heat source, such as lightning may start fires in duff or dry rotten wood. Fires in open, dry grasslands may burn easily a few hours after a rain, but most wood fires will spread slowly, creeping or smoldering. Control of fires is generally easy.

Allowed devices/ activities: No restrictions, all lawful activities allowed

Please note that ONLY recreational fires are allowed in Urban Growth Areas

Urban growth area means land, generally including and associated with an incorporated city, designated by a county for urban growth under RCW <u>36.70A.030</u>

Moderate Blue



July 1 County Wide Restriction of all Residential Burning and Land Clearing burning fires or as otherwise directed based on atmospheric and field conditions. No other restrictions.

When the fire danger is "moderate" it means that fires can start from most accidental causes, but the number of fire starts is usually pretty low. If a fire does start in an open, dry grassland, it will burn and spread quickly on windy days. Most wood fires will spread slowly to moderately. Average fire intensity will be moderate except in heavy concentrations of fuel, which may burn hot. Fires are still not likely to become serious and are often easy to control.

Prohibited devices/ activities: Burn barrels, land clearing or yard debris burning, sky lanterns

High Yellow



When the fire danger is "high", fires can start easily from most causes and small fuels (such as grasses and needles) will ignite readily. Unattended campfires and brush fires are likely to escape. Fires will spread easily, with some areas of high-intensity burning on slopes or concentrated fuels. Fires can become serious and difficult to control unless they are put out while they are still small.

No person shall operate or use any device liable to start or cause fire in or upon a "high" fire hazard. Restricted Open Flame Devices. No Wood, Charcoal Cooking Fires (BBQ). Tiki Torches. Liquid Fuel Candles or Lanterns. Gas or Propane Fired Weed Burners. Discharge of Fireworks of Any Type. Discharge of Fire Arms (Open Lands) - Undeveloped Lands of Jefferson County. Only Gas or Propane Fueled Appliances. ONLY Wood or Solid Fueled Cooking Fire - Enclosed Flame Only. (Example: – Pellet Fed or Propane Barbeque Grills, Smokers.)

Prohibited devices/ activities: Fireworks, charcoal grills, exploding targets, incendiary ammunition, firearm discharge on unimproved county lands, tiki style torches, no open flame devices

Very High Orange



When the fire danger is "very high", fires will start easily from most causes. The fires will spread rapidly and have a quick increase in intensity, right after ignition. Small fires can quickly become large fires and exhibit extreme fire intensity, such as long-distance spotting and fire whirls. These fires can be difficult to control and will often become much larger and longer-lasting fires.

No person shall build, ignite, or maintain any outdoor fire of any kind or character, or for any purpose whatsoever, in a Very High fire hazard area. No Outdoor Burning or Discharge of Fire arms. ONLY Gas or Propane Fueled Appliances.

Prohibited devices/ activities: No open or enclosed flame devices other than UL listed residential propane or wood pellet grills

Extreme Red



No Outdoor Fire, Burning, or Discharge of Any kind or Type.

When the fire danger is "extreme", fires of all types start quickly and burn intensely. All fires are potentially serious and can spread very quickly with intense burning. Small fires become big fires much faster than at the "very high" level. Spot fires are probable, with long-distance spotting likely. These fires are very difficult to fight and may become very dangerous and often last for several days.

Allowed devices/ activities: No allowed devices at this level FULL BAN on any fire or burning related activity

Open burning, residential burning or land clearing burning will be prohibited during any period of impaired are quality as designated by ORCAA or the Department of Ecology or during times of high fire danger

Questions about devices or activities not listed please contact the Fire Marshal's Office or your local Fire District