



Barnes County Emergency Management

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BARNES COUNTY FIRE EMERGENCY & BURN RESTRICTIONS

April 20, 2026

WHEREAS, the Barnes County Board of County Commissioners recognizes that Barnes County, North Dakota has the potential for dry conditions with significant fuel supplies available; and

WHEREAS, Barnes County has sustained or has been threatened with rural fires in the past and Barnes County Emergency Management has consulted with Local fire departments; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fire could threaten health, well-being, and safety of the citizens of Barnes County; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could exceed available resources; and

WHEREAS, the potential to cause wear/tear and unprecedented costs due to fire damage could exceed County resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Barnes County Board of Commissioners declares a **Fire Emergency & Burn Restriction** effective when the North Dakota Fire Danger Rating is **HIGH, VERY HIGH, or EXTREME** rating and/or **RED FLAG WARNING** has been issued for Barnes County, North Dakota, effective immediately until rescinded or through December 31st, 2026.

No Burning When Activity Matches Below

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| Low | No restrictions. Call 701-845-8181 for burn requests |
| Moderate | No restrictions. Call 701-845-8181 for burn requests |
| High | No open burning which includes: Controlled Burns(grass, trees, garbage pits, wood piles, etc) Cropland/Agriculture Burning |
| Very High | Campfires, Ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), recreational explosives and/or explosive materials (i.e., binary explosive targets), controlled burns (i.e., garbage pits, wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture land burning, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface). |
| Extreme | Campfires, Ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), recreational explosives and/or explosive materials (i.e., binary explosive targets), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture burning, garbage pit, gas camp stoves, grills/smokers (charcoal, pellet, wood fire), smoking (areas outside designated areas/and or vehicle), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface). |
| Red Flag Warning | All Aforementioned burning is PROHIBITED under a RED FLAG WARNING <i>(ND Administrative Code – Title 33.1 Article 15 Chapter 4)</i> |

THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN RESTRICTION IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37.17.1-10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$1,500.00 FINE) PER INCIDENT, AS WELL AS THE COST FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION.

DATED at Valley City, North Dakota this 20th day, April 2026

Barnes County Chairman

Julie Mindt, Barnes County Auditor