

How to be Firewise!!





A wildfire, or wildland fire, is a fire in an area with flammable vegetation.

A wildland fire can be caused by humans and environmental factors



Fuel Sources

- **Ground Fuels**
 - Any combustible fuels that lie beneath the surface
 - Deep duff
 - Buried roots
 - Buried logs
- **Surface Fuels**
 - All materials lying on or immediately above the ground
 - Needles
 - Leaves
 - Grass
- **Ladder Fuels**
 - Any fuel that provides a connection between the surface and canopy
 - Lower tree branches
- **Aerial Fuels**
 - All green and dead materials located in the upper forest canopy including:
 - Tree branches
 - Crowns

A photograph of a forest fire. The scene is filled with smoke and bright orange flames. Several large tree trunks are visible, some of which are being consumed by the fire. The fire is spreading through the forest, with flames reaching up the sides of the trees. The ground is covered in a layer of dry leaves and twigs, which are also burning. The overall atmosphere is hazy and dangerous.

Aerial Fuels

Ladder Fuels

Surface Fuels

Ground Fuels

Critical Fire Weather

- **Wind**
 - Increases supply of oxygen to the fire
 - Can change the direction and path of a fire
 - Dries fuels out quickly
 - Can carry sparks ahead of the main fire, starting new fires
- **Thunderstorms and Lightning Storms**
 - Thunderstorms often have little to no rain
 - Lightning strikes then have the potential to cause a fire
- **Low Humidities**
 - Fuels will dry without precipitation, exacerbated by wind
 - Increases in temperature will also dry fuels

Fire Danger Levels

Low (Green)—Fire starts are unlikely. Weather and fuel conditions will lead to slow fire spread, low intensity and relatively easy control with light mop-up. Controlled burns can usually be executed with reasonable safety.

Moderate (Blue)—Some wildfires may be expected. Expect moderate flame length and rate of spread. Control is usually not difficult and light to moderate mop-up can be expected. Although controlled burning can be done without creating a hazard, routine caution should be taken.

High (Yellow)—Wildfires are likely. Fires in heavy, continuous fuel such as mature grassland, weed fields and forest litter, will be difficult to control under windy conditions. Control through direct attack may be difficult but possible and mop-up will be required. Outdoor burning should be restricted to early morning and late evening hours.

Very High (Orange)—Fires start easily from all causes and may spread faster than suppression resources can travel. Flame lengths will be long with high intensity, making control very difficult. Both suppression and mop-up will require an extended and very thorough effort. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Extreme (Red)—Fires will start and spread rapidly. Every fire start has the potential to become large. Expect extreme, erratic fire behavior. **NO OUTDOOR BURNING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN AREAS WITH EXTREME FIRE DANGER.**

<https://www.nps.gov/fire/wildland-fire/learning-center/fire-in-depth/understanding-fire-danger.cfm>

Mitigation

- What is “Mitigation?”
 - Fire mitigation is the area around a home or structure that has been modified to reduce fire hazard
- What can you do?
 - Reduce or remove any natural or manmade fuels from around structures to slow or stop the spread of fire
 - Protecting homes and communities from wildfires is ongoing; requiring seasonal maintenance and constant vigilance



Burn Ban

- A burn ban is enacted when environmental factors (amount of wetting precipitation, winds, storms, etc.) deteriorate, increasing the likelihood of a fire igniting and spreading rapidly.
- Basically, a burn ban is put into place when fire chiefs, the county Sheriff, or Board of County Commissioners determine that there is greater growth potential for any fire that MIGHT start in Park County.
- When a burn ban is in effect:
PLEASE DO NOT BURN! You are increasing the chances of starting a fire in your own back yard!!
- For more information on any burn bans, please follow the below link:

[Park County Burn Ban](#)

**BURN BAN
IN EFFECT**

Or call
(719)836-4160



Fire

- Northwest Fire, District 4, Fairplay and Alma area

[Northwest Fire](#)

- Platte Canyon Fire, District 5, Bailey and Grant area

[Platte Canyon Fire](#)

Districts

- Jefferson Como Fire, District 6, Jefferson and Como area

[Jefferson Como Fire Department](#)

- Hartsel Fire, District 7, Hartsel and South Park area

[Hartsel Fire Department](#)

Park

- Lake George Fire, District 8, Lake George area

[Lake George Fire Department](#)

County

- Southern Park County Fire, District 9, Guffey area

[Southern Park County Fire](#)