

# HOOD RIVER COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS



**MIKEL S. DIWAN, DIRECTOR**

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: HOOD RIVER COUNTY PARKS & BUILDINGS PERSONNEL  
FROM: MIKEL DIWAN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
SUBJECT: COUNTY PARK FIRE RESTRICTIONS  
DATE: JUNE 29, 2023

In compliance with the Regulated Closure Proclamation regarding fire restrictions issued by the State of Oregon's Department of Forestry, all open recreational fires and campfires will be prohibited at all Hood River County parks until further notice, effective Saturday, July 1, 2023. Under Hood River County Ordinance, this includes cooking fires using wood, charcoal briquettes, wood pellets, and all other open fuels, whether used in park fire rings or as personal equipment. These restrictions apply to all campsites, day-use areas, picnic shelters, and fireplaces within picnic shelters.

Gas or other valve-controlled units will still be permitted for cooking purposes. Similar gas or valve-controlled units will still be permitted for recreational purposes (e.g., gas fire pits) but must be at least 24" above bare ground or placed within existing fire rings. All other recreational fires will be in violation of H.R.C.C. 12.08.045 and 12.08.055.

The smoking of cigarettes, cigars, or other potential fire hazards are also prohibited at all county parks until further notice. The use of fireworks, including sparklers, are strictly prohibited. H.R.C.C. 12.08.275.

Please ensure these restrictions are clearly posted at all campgrounds and park shelters and that staff, hosts, and guests are aware of current fire rules. This notice will be posted on the Hood River County Parks website. Questions should be directed to the Hood River County Parks & Buildings Department at (541) 387-6889.

Cc: HRC Parks & Buildings staff  
HRC Forestry Department  
2023 HRC Park Hosts  
Hood River County Fire Districts  
Oregon Department of Forestry, The Dalles

**STATE OF OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY**

**FIRE RESTRICTIONS**  
REGULATED CLOSURE PROCLAMATION

Number 02

Effective 12:01 a.m., PDT, July 1, 2023

By virtue of the authority vested in me under the provisions of ORS 477.535 to 477.550, I hereby proclaim a Regulated Closure to be in effect in the following subject area:

All lands protected by the Central Oregon Forest Protection District, and all forestland within one-eighth mile thereof.

Under this Regulated Closure it is unlawful to be in violation of the following restrictions:

- Smoking is prohibited while traveling, except in vehicles on improved roads.
- Open fires are prohibited, including campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires and warming fires, except in designated areas. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed. Open fires are allowed if conducted in compliance with a valid Burning Permit issued pursuant to ORS 477.515.
- Chainsaw use is prohibited, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Chainsaw use is permitted at all other hours, if the following firefighting equipment is present with each operating saw: one axe, one shovel, and one operational 8 ounce or larger fire extinguisher. In addition, a fire watch is required at least one hour following the use of each saw.
- Cutting, grinding and welding of metal is prohibited between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. At all other times the area is to be cleared of flammable vegetation and the following fire equipment is required: one axe, one shovel, and one operational 2 ½ pound or larger fire extinguisher in good working order.
- Use of motor vehicles, including motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles, is prohibited, except on improved roads and except for vehicle use by a landowner and employees of the landowner upon their own land while conducting activities associated with their livelihood.
- Possession of the following firefighting equipment is required while traveling in a motorized vehicle, except on federal and state highways, county roads and driveways: one shovel and one gallon of water or one operational 2½ pound or larger fire extinguisher, except all-terrain vehicles and motorcycles which must be equipped with an approved spark arrestor in good working condition.

- Mowing of dried grass with power driven equipment is prohibited, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., except for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops. The use of battery or electric powered string trimmers are exempt from this requirement.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Blasting is prohibited.
- Any electric fence controller in use shall be: 1) Listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory or be certified by the Department of Consumer and Business Services; and 2) Operated in compliance with manufacturer's instructions.

Aside from these restrictions, also prohibited throughout fire season is backyard debris burning, the use of exploding targets and tracer ammunition.

The State Forester or an authorized representative may, in writing, approve a modification or waiver of these requirements.

These restrictions shall remain in effect until replaced, suspended, or terminated by an additional proclamation of the State Forester or an authorized representative.

Maps of the subject area may be viewed at the State Forester's Office, in Salem, Oregon, and at principal offices of the Forest Protection District.

Definitions of words and phrases used in this proclamation may be found in ORS 477.001, OAR 629-041-0005.

Rob Pentzer, District Forester  
Central Oregon District  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
June 28, 2023