



## **Pitkin County Sheriff announces Fire Ban and Restrictions Effective 12:00 am April 5, 2012**

The Pitkin County Sheriff, with the support from the Fire Chiefs of Aspen, Snowmass, Basalt, and Carbondale, is imposing open fire restrictions due to the unseasonably warm weather and lack of moisture. The fuel moisture content of trees, grass and brush is significantly low and at risk of a devastating fire.

The health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Pitkin County require that the use of open fires, equipment, and explosives be regulated in order to prevent wildfires under existing conditions.

The following open fire ban and restrictions shall apply on all private and state lands in Pitkin County. Federal lands are excluded.

The fire ban and restrictions shall apply to the following persons and activities:

- A. Building, maintaining, attending, or using any fire to burn trash, debris, fence rows or vegetation, any campfire, warming fire, or charcoal grill, except for those conducted in permanent fire pits or fire grates, that are located in designated campgrounds, picnic areas, or developed recreation sites.
- B. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle, or building, at a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
- C. Operating a chainsaw without a U.S.D.A. or other approved spark arresting device properly installed and in effective working order, and chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity by weight, and one size O or larger round-pointed shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches. The extinguisher shall be kept with the chainsaw operator. The shovel may be kept with the fuel supplies, but readily available for use.
- D. Welding or operation an acetylene or other torch with open flame; except within an area that is barren or cleared of all flammable material at least ten feet on all sides from the equipment.
- E. Use of any fireworks or explosive requiring fuses or blasting caps.

**SHERIFF JOE DISALVO**

ADMINISTRATION: 506 E. MAIN, SUITE 101 • ASPEN, CO. 81611 • 970.920.5300 • FAX 970.920.5307 • [PITKINSHERIFF.COM](http://PITKINSHERIFF.COM)

DETENTION: 515 E. BLEEKER, DEPT. J • ASPEN, CO. 81611 • 970.920.5331 • FAX 970.920.5339 • [PITKINSHERIFF.COM](http://PITKINSHERIFF.COM)



The restrictions and ban stated above exclude the following:

1. Persons with a valid written permit from a Federal agency, the Pitkin County Sheriff, or the fire district within which the fire is to occur specifically authorizing the prohibited act.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Any fires contained within a liquid fuel or gas fuel stove, fireplaces within buildings, charcoal grill fires at private residences, and fires located within permanent fire pits or fire grates to the extent those pits or grates are located in developed picnic grounds, campgrounds or recreational sites.
4. Burning of irrigation ditches located within and completely surrounded by irrigated farmlands, where such burning is necessary for crop survival, and a specific written permit has been granted for such burning, in advance, by the fire district having jurisdiction.
5. Campfires or bonfires required in religious ceremonies, for which a Federal agency or the County Sheriff has granted a valid written permit in advance.

Knowingly or recklessly burning during this ban is illegal and legal actions may be taken against individuals in violation under CRS 30-15-410 and Pitkin County Resolution 96-38.

The temporary restrictions and burn ban are in effect until further notice.

If you have any questions please contact your local fire district or Sheriff's Office at:

Aspen Fire Protection District	925-5532
Basalt & Rural Fire Protection District	704-0675
Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District	963-2491
Snowmass/Wildcat Fire Protection District	923-2212
Pitkin County Sheriff's Office	920-5300

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