



PRESS RELEASE

Date: August 3, 2026
Contact: Doyle Sanford, Building Official/Fire Marshal
Phone: 360.740.2696
Release #: 2

Lewis County Burn Restrictions Expanded - Total Burn Ban in Effect

With the continued dry weather, the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners and Lewis County Fire Marshal will expand the burn restrictions for all of unincorporated Lewis County, Washington, effective at 12:01am on August 4, 2026.

This modification and upgrade will prohibit all outdoor burning which includes recreational fires. Until modified by the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners or the Lewis County Fire Marshal, **only liquid gas or propane camp stoves that do not use solid briquettes and have on/off controls are permitted.** This decision was made due to the continued, and in some parts of unincorporated Lewis County, worsening dry season conditions.

The Lewis County Fire Marshal, in coordination with the local Fire District Chiefs strongly urge all county residents and property owners to be attentive to the conditions of their properties through proactive fire prevention measures. While the Board of County Commissioners and the Fire Marshal recognize that this decision may alter recreational plans, the decision to expand the burn restriction to a total burn ban reflects the county's priority of public safety and the protection of personnel, as well as property.

The open burning restrictions, including this modification to put in place a total burn ban, will remain in effect until such discontinuance is modified or rescinded by the Board of County Commissioners. A public announcement of the lifting of the restrictions and ban will be released to the public at that time.

For further information concerning outdoor burning and/or the restrictions being imposed, please contact Doyle Sanford, Lewis County Fire Marshal, at (360)740-2696. The Fire Marshal's office is in the Lewis County Public Services building, located at 125 NW Chehalis Avenue, Chehalis, Washington. You may also visit the Lewis County website at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/departments/community-development/burn-restriction-information/>



TOTAL BURN BAN RULES

For Unincorporated Lewis County

Unincorporated Lewis County is under burn bans until further notice.
Please note these rules for cooking/lighting devices:

ALLOWED (GAS ONLY)

- Propane or pressurized gas camp stoves and barbecues (NO briquettes)
- Pressurized gas lights
- Candles inside glass or metal containers
- Battery-powered or electric lights
- Propane fire pit



NOT ALLOWED

- Recreational wood fires
- Charcoal briquettes
- Lanterns, stoves and Tiki-torches that use non-pressurized liquid fuel
- Solid fuel and citronella candles not inside of glass or metal containers
- Fireworks
- Any incendiary devices, such as exploding targets, sky lanterns or tracer ammunition
- Smoking outside of cleared areas in parks



Questions?

Lewis County – <http://lewiscountywa.gov> or call (360)740-1146

Department of Natural Resources – <https://fortress.wa.gov/dnr/protection/firedanger/>