

# FIRE EMERGENCY & BURN RESTRICTIONS DECLARATION

## For Mountrail County, North Dakota Date

WHEREAS, Mountrail County, North Dakota has and is expected to continue to endure periods of dry conditions with significant vegetative fuels available to burn; and

WHEREAS, combined with warm temperatures and windy conditions, the chance of a fire burning out of control is very high; and

WHEREAS, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, Mountrail County, has either sustained or been threatened with rural fires in the past and the local Emergency Management Office has been in consultation with local fire departments; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens in Mountrail County; and

WHEREAS, the cost of response, inordinate equipment wear/tear and fire damages may be beyond available Mountrail County resources; and

WHEREAS, Mountrail County, wishes to regulate activities within the Mountrail County which pose a potential hazard for such loss, should the present weather conditions continue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Mountrail County Commissioners declare a Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions effective when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the High, Very High, or Extreme Rating or a Red Flag Warning, has been issued for Mountrail County, North Dakota, effective immediately until rescinded.

### What's Included: No Burning When Activity Matches Below

*Burning is Prohibited if the Fire Index is in Extreme Category as Issued by NWS ([ND Administrative Code – Title 33.1 Article 15 Chapter 4](#))*

<b>High</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture/field burning, fireplaces and chimineas patio (organic material), garbage barrels/incinerators/pits, grills/smokers (charcoal, pellet, wood fire), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel, other than for agriculture/ranching needs (anything other than paved or gravel surface). Gas smokers/grills and gas camp stoves must be on hard, non-organic surface and 15 feet away from any vegetation and have a extinguisher or water available on-site
<b>Very High</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture/field burning, fireplaces and chimineas patio (organic material), garbage barrels/incinerators/pit, grills/smokers (charcoal, pellet, wood fire), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel, other than for agriculture/ranching needs (anything other than paved or gravel surface). Gas smokers/grills and gas camp stoves must be on hard, non-organic surface and 15 feet away from any vegetation and have a extinguisher or water available on-site
<b>Extreme</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture/field burning, fireplaces and chimineas patio (organic material), garbage barrels/incinerators/pit, grills/smokers (charcoal, pellet, wood fire), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel, other than for agriculture/ranching needs (anything other than paved or gravel surface). Gas smokers/grills and gas camp stoves must be on hard, non-organic surface and 15 feet away from any vegetation and have a extinguisher or water available on-site
<b>Red Flag Warning</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture/field burning, fireplaces and chimineas patio (organic material), garbage barrels/incinerators/pit, gas camp stoves, grills/smokers (gas, charcoal, pellet, wood fire), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel, other than for agriculture/ranching needs (anything other than paved or gravel surface).

**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). Mountrail County Sheriff's Office is authorized to issue citations to violators.**

This declaration is for Mountrail County. However, the incorporated cities and tribal governments within the county may have their own permanent burn restrictions based on local ordinances. Please check with the cities and areas you may live in before doing any burning.

The Daily Fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>

DATED at Mountrail County, North Dakota this 3 day of March 2026.



Trudy Ruland, Chair  
Mountrail County Commission



Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor  
Mountrail County