



County of Powhatan, Virginia Press Statement



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

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RE: Powhatan County Suspends All Open Burning Due to Dry Conditions

Powhatan, VA - In light of the atmospheric conditions and the extended period of dry weather locally, there is a heightened risk associated with open burning. Accordingly, effective immediately, the Powhatan County Fire Marshal hereby prohibits all open burning in Powhatan County, suspends all previously issued open burning permits, and suspends the issuance of any new burn permits.

This prohibition is in effect until the atmospheric and dry conditions abate sufficiently to decrease the heightened risk. Open burning permits that have been suspended, may be extended for the period of time that the suspension is in effect. The only burning that is permitted during this prohibition is for governmental, firefighting, or military uses.

Failure to comply with the open burning prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

In taking this action, Powhatan County joins with its neighboring localities of Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, and Goochland who have recently enacted similar burn bans.

The County continues to be in regular contact with the Virginia Department of Forestry about existing conditions. The prohibition is in place until further notice. Citizens and businesses with questions about the open burning prohibition can contact Powhatan County's Office of Fire & Rescue (804) 598-5646.

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