

# BURNING PERMITS **SUSPENDED**



Lower fire risk increases emergency responder & firefighter safety



Less human contact increases public safety

## REDUCED FIRE OCCURRENCES = REDUCED COVID-19 EXPOSURE

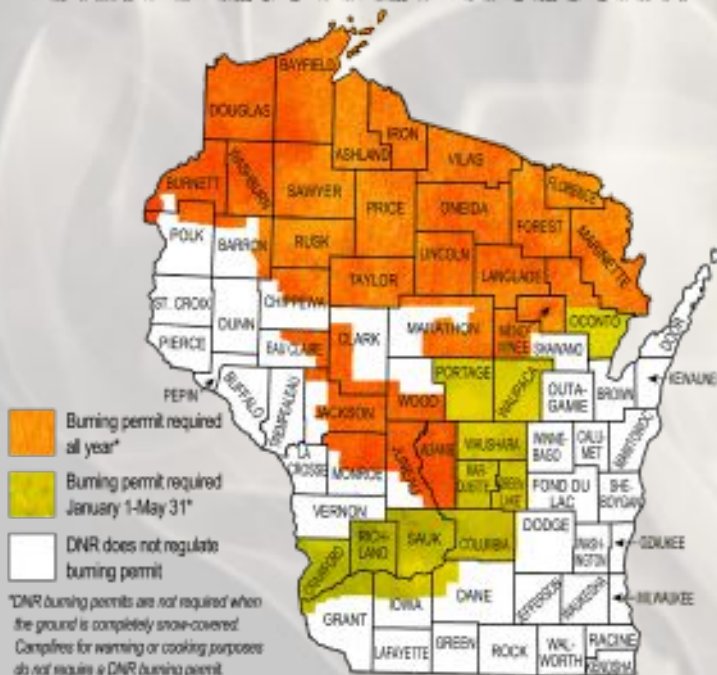
### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- **All DNR burning permits suspended** and will no longer be issued (written or electronically)
- **NO burning debris piles** in barrels, on the ground, grass or wooded areas
- **NO prescribed burning** where DNR special permits are required
- *Please note: small campfires for warming or cooking are ok but, discouraged*
- *Burning debris in a campfire ring is NOT considered a campfire*
- **If you fail to comply** with the current fire restrictions or if your fire escapes, you may be cited by law enforcement

### WHERE DOES THIS APPLY?

- Suspension of burning permits apply in DNR protection areas shown in orange and yellow in the map below.

### DNR FOREST FIRE PROTECTION



### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- DNR must comply with state directives to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Spring in Wisconsin has the highest wildfire risk (March – May); debris burning is the #1 cause
- Yard clean-up is a tradition in the spring, many choose to dispose of yard waste by burning, increasing wildfire risk
- Responding to a wildfire increases the risk of COVID-19 exposure through crowding of resources and geographic travel of emergency responders and firefighters
- Many DNR firefighters and fire departments are teleworking; this may reduce the availability to staff fire suppression equipment and hinder emergency response time and result in rapid fire growth
- Eliminating smoke on the landscape aids those with compromised respiratory functions

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **Avoid any activity that may result in a wildfire;** wait until the restrictions are lifted
- **Find alternatives** to burning; contact local municipality for disposal options
- **Use caution with campfires,** hot exhaust systems or sparks from equipment, ash or briquette disposal
- **Report wildfires early** by dialing 911 immediately!

### WHEN CAN I BURN AGAIN?

- Fire control officials will continue to evaluate state directives, resource availability and fire risk
- **Additional Emergency Burning Restrictions may be implemented (all outdoor burning prohibited) if firefighting resources are stretched thin or fire weather conditions warrant**
- **Visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), search “fire” or call 888-WIS-BURN (947-2876)** for any changes in current fire situation
- Thank you for your patience and understanding!

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