

PRESS RELEASE

July 9th 2003

**MASON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584
(360) 427-9670 EXT. 263**

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Mason County Burn Ban

MASON COUNTY BURN BAN IN EFFECT ON JULY 10

Effective 8 AM, Thursday, July 10, a burn ban will be in effect for all land-clearing and residential yard debris fires throughout Mason County.

Recreational campfires will be allowed under the following conditions:

1. Recreational campfires are allowed if built in metal-or-concrete-lined fire pits located in designated campgrounds, such as those typically found in local, county, and state parks and in commercial campgrounds. The use of self-contained camp stoves is encouraged.
2. Recreational fires are also allowed if located on private land with the landowner's permission and if built in an "approved" manner. These fires must:
 - Be built in a metal or concrete fire pit, such as those typically found in designated campgrounds,
 - Be no larger than three feet across,
 - Be located in a clear spot free from any vegetation for at least 10' in a horizontal direction, including a 20' vertical clearance from overhanging branches,
 - Be attended at all times by an alert individual with immediate access to a shovel and either five gallons of water or a connected and charged water hose.

The burn ban will be in effect throughout Mason County until wildfire and dry weather conditions subside.

Please refer questions regarding the burn ban to your local fire district, the Mason County Fire Marshal at 360-427-9670 or the Mason County Fire Marshal Information Line at 360-427-7799.

Ron Henrickson, Mason County Administrator