



Northern Rockies Coordination Group Northwest Montana Zone

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Northern Rockies
Coordination Group

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NW Montana Zone
Member Agencies

Montana DNRC
Northwestern Land
Office

U.S. Forest Service
Flathead National
Forest

U.S. Forest Service
Kootenai National
Forest

National Park Service
Glacier National Park

U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service
Flathead/Swan Area
Refuges

Flathead County

Lake County

Lincoln County

Sanders County

Independence Day

Every year the 4th of July celebration draws families to the forest lands as they celebrate Independence Day. The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the U. S. Forest Service and your local Fire Department remind everyone to be careful with fire this Independence Day weekend.

In past years, careless campers and other recreationists have caused wildfires in forests around Northwest Montana. These wildfires have damaged valuable natural resources and popular recreation areas, costing all of us, as taxpayers, thousands of dollars to control. Wildfires can be prevented by using some common sense while camping, fishing, picnicking, and participating in other outdoor activities. Remember, anyone causing a wildfire can be held financially responsible for damages and the cost of putting out that fire.

Don't let Wildfire Spoil Your Summer Fun!

Jeremy Pris with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation offers these summertime safety tips:

1. Build safe campfires, by keeping them small and contained. Never leave your fire unattended, and make sure it is DEAD OUT before you leave it. State law requires that anyone lighting a campfire must have a bucket and shovel handy.
2. Be careful with fireworks. Never use them in the forest, around dry grass or brush, or in other areas where fire may accidentally start. Never throw or shoot fireworks from a moving vehicle.

For more information contact the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, U. S. Forest Service or your local Fire Department