


**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA REQUEST**

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Al Scalf, Director of Community Development 

DATE: June 20, 2011

RE: Burning Ban for the 2011 fire season on open debris burning not including recreational fires.

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

Staff presents for Board of County Commissioner (BOCC) consideration a resolution to implement a burning ban for east Jefferson County during the 2011 fire season. This resolution reflects the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) burn ban implementation plan developed because of the Commissioner of Public Lands order dated April 28, 2011. Staff requests the BOCC review the draft resolution and subsequently approve the resolution by affirmative vote of the BOCC to establish the burning ban.

ANALYSIS:

In 2005, Jefferson County established a County wide burning ban program based upon the DNR fire danger rating system. Should the DNR issue a moderate or high level for fire danger then Jefferson County would implement a burning ban in east Jefferson County. Jefferson County has ordered burning curtailments during the summer fire season for the last six years.

For 2011, the Department of Natural Resources is invoking an outdoor burning ban on forestlands protected by the Department of Natural Resources from July 1 through September 30. A statewide summer burn ban is a valuable tool to reduce the occurrence of preventable human-caused wildfires providing a safeguard against hazards to life safety and property. This closure will help protect citizens, fire fighters, emergency responders and private property.

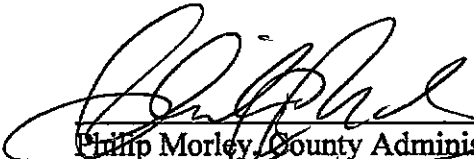
FISCAL IMPACT:

No direct impact from the proposed action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners adopt the proposed resolution to establish the 2011 summer burning ban to begin on July 1.

REVIEWED BY:


Philip Morley, County Administrator


Date

WHEREAS, the Fire Chiefs for the Fire Protection Districts located within eastern Jefferson County have been consulted with respect to this proposed ban and generally concur with imposing this ban; and

WHEREAS, The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners hereby wishes to promote the health, safety and welfare of its citizens under the statutory purposes of the Washington Clean Air Act, and;

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Fire Code Official supports imposition of this ban; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners hereby declares a burning ban for eastern Jefferson County on debris disposal open burning as defined in Chapter 173-425 WAC other than recreational fires from July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011, concurrent with the 2011 DNR burn ban implementation plan. Exception: the burning ban may be lifted prior to September 30, 2011 based upon consultation between the local Fire Chiefs and the Fire Code Official in consideration of field conditions.

Formatted: Font: Bold

SUBSEQUENT ALTERATIONS TO THE BAN: The DNR fire danger rating system and any subsequent curtailments shall be applied to the western portions of Jefferson County and to activities during the periods of time prior to July 1, 2011 and after September 30, 2011 as warranted.

SEVERABILITY. The provisions of these regulations are severable. If any provision is held invalid, the application of that provision to other circumstances and the remainder of the regulation will not be affected.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This resolution becomes effective on the approval date when enacted by the Board of County Commissioners. This resolution shall be considered null and void and without effect on December 31, 2011. Resolutions No. 42-05 and 43-05 remain in effect subject to the provisions of this 2011 burning ban resolution.

Approved this 20th day of June 2011.

SEAL:

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

John Austin, Chairman

Formatted: Underline

| ATTEST:

David Sullivan, Member

Formatted: Underline

Phil Johnson, Member

Formatted: Underline