

Dutchess County Under Red Flag Fire Warning

14 Brush Fires Reported Yesterday

Poughkeepsie... Dutchess County Emergency Response Coordinator Dana Smith reminds all Dutchess County residents that all outdoor burning including burn barrels and outdoor fireplaces is currently banned in New York State. Dutchess County is currently under a “RED FLAG FIRE WARNING” from the National Weather Service, due to heightened fire danger from strong winds and low humidity as well as recent dry conditions.

Dutchess County 9-1-1 Communications Center dispatched fourteen brush fires reports yesterday, with locations spread throughout the county.

“The combination of dry weather and wind has provided the optimal conditions for brush fire and people need to realize the danger is significant. It is very important for all residents to avoid all outdoor burning in order to prevent serious fire situations,” said Emergency Response Coordinator Dana Smith.

According to the National Weather Service (Albany office), a **FIRE WEATHER WARNING** is in effect for Dutchess County from 10am this morning (Tuesday) through 7pm this evening. A RED FLAG warning means that critical fire weather conditions are occurring. A combination of strong winds and low relative humidity will create explosive fire growth potential.

Dutchess County Emergency Response officials have been in contact with local fire departments to be on heightened alert as a result of the Red Flag Fire Weather Warning. The Department of Emergency Response will continue to closely monitor weather conditions.

Residents can log on <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/aly/> for the most up-to-date weather information and advisories from the Albany office of the National Weather Service.

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