



Office of Emergency Management

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PRESS RELEASE

Elbert County Sheriff's Office increases Burn Restriction to Stage II effective February 18, 2009

On Wednesday, February 18, 2009, The Sheriff's Office, at the recommendation of the Fire Chiefs Association, increased the county wide burn ban for all unincorporated areas of Elbert County to a Stage II restriction level. This will remain in effect until further notice. This is a result of unusually high fire danger due to lack of precipitation and high winds causing red flag warnings within Elbert County.

Under Stage II restrictions, **no open burning is allowed, the sale and use of fireworks and education rockets are prohibited.** The safe use of charcoal and gas grills are allowed and not affected by this ban. Violation of the burn restriction carries penalties for 1st time offenses of \$110.00 as set forth in the county **burn restriction ordinance 06-01.**

"With the unusual fire weather conditions being experienced during the winter months, and low precipitation, we determined it would be a proactive move to prevent wild land fires," said John Hillmann, Big Sandy Fire Protection District Chief and Fire Chief Association Chairman.

For further information call the Elbert County Office of Emergency Management at 303.805.6131 or your local Fire Protection District.