

Sandoval County Issues Burn Ban and Halts Issuance of Burning Permits

The Sandoval County Fire Department, due to the extremely high winds and dry conditions, has issued bans on open burning in the unincorporated areas of Sandoval County. In addition, during the ban, the Sandoval County Fire Department will no longer issue burn permits of any kind. The ban took effect this morning, and will remain in effect until further notice. "Effective immediately, the Sandoval County Fire Department will not be issuing burn permits of any kind in unincorporated Sandoval County," said Sandoval County Fire Chief James Maxon. "The burn ban is in response to dry conditions and the extremely high winds which significantly increase fire dangers." The Sandoval County Fire Department's ban prohibits all open flame sources such as campfires, cooking burns on grills and agricultural burns. Burning in established fire rings and pits is also prohibited until further notice. Liquid-fueled or gas-fueled stoves, fireplaces within buildings, and charcoal grills at private residences are all allowed under the ban. Anyone found violating the county's ban on open burning will be subject to arrest and penalties up to and including a \$300 fine and 90 days in jail. "We strongly encourage everyone to be vigilant about fire prevention so a catastrophic fire does not occur within Sandoval County," said Sandoval County Fire Chief Maxon. Sandoval County residents can report illegal burning by calling 505-891-7226. For additional information on the county's rules regarding open burning, visit: www.sandovalcountynm.gov/departments/fire/open-burning-info