

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

August 26, 2011

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### **Level II Fire Ban declared**

**Rocky View County, Alberta** – Effective 12:00 p.m. on Friday, August 26, 2011, and until further notice, permitted burning in Rocky View County is banned due to dry, windy conditions. All outstanding burning permits are suspended until further notice.

“In the interests of fire prevention, all outstanding burning permits have been suspended until the current dry and windy conditions decrease,” says Rocky View Fire Chief Ken McMullen. “We ask residents and visitors be observant of potential fire risks for the duration of the ban and do their part to ensure the protection of our communities.”

This fire ban shall be in effect until such time as the Fire Chief’s Office deems appropriate to change for purposes of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act and the Rocky View County Prevention and Control of Fires Bylaw.

Level II fire ban represents a severe fire risk for the County and the current dry conditions can cause hay fields, crops, grass, and brush to ignite easily and fires to spread very quickly.

This ban includes:

- Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- Regulated burning barrels
- Solid fuel barbecues (charcoal briquettes)
- Recreational camp fires (approved burn pit 24” in diameter or less)
- Chimeneas

The exemptions to this fire ban are as follows:

- Internal household fire places
- Camp stoves
- Liquid fuel barbecues (propane and natural gas)
- Fires contained within approved facilities and appliances in designated camping and recreational are

For further information or media inquiries, please contact Fire Chief Ken McMullen at 403.478.8164.

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## **BACKGROUNDER: DESCRIPTION OF FIRE BAN LEVELS**

### **Level I (moderate fire risk)**

The exemptions to this fire ban are listed as follows:

- Internal household fire places
- Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- Regulated burning barrels
- Camp stoves
- Solid fuel barbecues (charcoal briquettes)
- Liquid fuel barbecues (propane and natural gas)
- Recreational camp fires (approved burn pit 24" in diameter or less)
- Chimeneas
- Fires contained within approved facilities and appliances in designated camping and recreational areas.

### **Level II (severe fire risk)**

This ban includes:

- Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- Regulated burning barrels
- Solid fuel barbecues (charcoal briquettes)
- Recreational camp fires (approved burn pit 24" in diameter or less)
- Chimeneas.

The exemptions to this fire ban are listed as follows:

- Internal household fire places
- Camp stoves
- Liquid fuel barbecues (propane and natural gas)
- Fires contained within approved facilities and appliances in designated camping and recreational areas.

### **Level III (extreme fire risk)**

This ban includes:

- Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- Regulated burning barrels
- Camp stoves
- Solid fuel barbecues (charcoal briquettes)
- Recreational camp fires (approved burn pit 24" in diameter or less)
- Chimeneas
- Fires contained within approved facilities and appliances in designated camping and recreational areas.

The exemptions to this fire ban are listed as follows:

- Internal household fire places
- Liquid fuel barbecues (propane and natural gas)