



BOTTINEAU COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Preparedness, Planning & Partnership

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2019 Emergency Burn Regulations A user and a community guide.

April 23, 2019, the Chair of the Bottineau County Commissioners, Mr. Dan Marquardt, authorized the issuance of Emergency Burn Regulations. This will be in place until further notice.

Bottineau as well as surrounding counties use NDResponse.gov website to monitor local fire dangers. In that web page is a fire danger information section. Clicking on that tab will open up a section that has Burn Ban/**Restrictions Map**. That map shows the counties that have a total burn ban or use burn restrictions. Bottineau County uses the restriction concept, which allows for responsible burning in favorable conditions. The Fire Danger Rating Map in that same section is the daily “thermometer” indicating what the fire conditions for that day are. There are five conditions listed in that product which we use to govern and regulate fire use. This information is updated from the Forest Service Fire Prediction and Forecast Specialists. They use scientific formulas to determine the dangers local communities/counties are facing. This page/map is updated daily.

The conditions that the Bottineau County Burn Regulations cover are:

Low:	Responsible burning allowed.
Moderate:	Responsible burning allowed.
High:	No burning allowed.
Very High:	No burning allowed
Extreme:	No burning allowed.

The National Weather Service also monitors weather conditions and issue one warning that is covered under the Bottineau County Regulation.

That condition is referred to as:

Red Flag Warning: No Burning is allowed.

Conditions under this Red Flag warning are immediate and means fire conditions are very volatile and very dangerous. This is established by established NOAA formulas just as

any other weather storm data is provided. A fire in these conditions can be very dangerous to human life and property.

Bottineau County is very dependent on its agricultural foundation and wish to continue to help farmers succeed. Fire is an important tool. Recreational, Ag or “controlled burns” are **still authorized during low and moderate fire danger risk** listed at the time fire is to be used in the [NDResponse.gov](https://www.ndresponse.gov) page.

People who wish to use fire as a tool are encouraged to contact their local fire chief and develop a plan for a safe burn. Working with your fire chief or the emergency manager to develop a safe plan for your burn will be prudent for any planned fire. Don’t be “that guy” who starts a fire and impacts his or her neighbors with not having a plan to deal with the fire.

Many effective solutions are available. They include disking a track around the area you intend to burn. Having a wild land truck with a crew from your volunteer fire department on scene during the burn. Each plan and each burn will take a bit of thought to ensure safety, but it can be done. Planning for no wind conditions is prudent. Local weather reports help, as do weather apps on our phones. You can forecast what day may be good to look at burning so that you can try to schedule that burn.

Your fire chiefs and your emergency manager are all available to support you to keep your fire from becoming a problematic fire.