



County of Caroline
Department of Fire-Rescue & Emergency Management

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 17, 2011

“Caroline County Issues Temporary Ban on Open Burning”

Caroline, Virginia – Caroline County Fire-EMS Chief David Layman has announced a period of significant wildfire danger due to the extremely dry conditions found countywide in Caroline County. Over the last month, windy conditions and the significant lack of rain have created an extremely hazardous environment. Caroline has large areas of forest and wooded land. Dry vegetation has contributed to the fuel load; making for an even more dangerous situation.

According to the Virginia Department of Forestry, the fire occurrence conditions in Caroline are at a very high level. This means that fires start readily, spread quickly, their resistance to control is high, and there is the potential for large fires.

To protect the health and safety of citizens and protect the property in Caroline County, a “No Open Burning” ban will begin at 4:00 pm on February 17, 2011. This ban on open burning will last until the threat has subsided.

Citizens are requested to completely extinguish smoking materials before discarding them. The Emergency “NO OPEN BURNING” declaration prohibits outdoor burning of any kind regardless of the time of day. This includes any debris, substance, or material as well as yard waste (leaves, brush, stumps, & limbs) and other related materials.

Any signs of a fire, including brush or woods fires, should be reported immediately by calling 911. Grasses and brush are particularly vulnerable to rapid fire spread. Keep all debris away from houses and open structures.

For more information, contact the office of Fire-Rescue & Emergency Management at (804) 633-9831.