



## SAFETY TIPS FROM THE GRR FIRE DEPARTMENT OCTOBER, 2023

**The Burn Ban has been lifted**, but remember, the wildland fire season is still in swing during October. Recent cooler weather and precipitation reduce but do not eliminate that risk.

The **New Fire Station Open House** will be on the morning of Saturday, 10/14/23 between 9-11 am. This was an expensive project that required a mortgage loan of \$300,000. We would like to minimize the impact of its 4.25% interest by prepaying the loan down. Donations will help make that possible. **If you have not already donated, please help by sending a check to Gallatin River Ranch Rural Fire District, PO Box 109, Manhattan, MT 59741. Your generous donation is tax deductible under section 170(c)(1) of the IRS code. We will have a donation boot at the open house.**

Check to make sure you are current on yearly home heating system and chimney inspections. Faulty furnaces and uncleaned fireplace and wood stove flues are a potential sources of home fires. Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and make sure you are staying on top of yearly battery changes.

Put a reflective stake next to your propane tank hatch. These make it easier to locate the propane hatch in the event of a fire. This is especially important if a fire occurs at night or when snow covers the hatch.

October is good time to mow a wider perimeter around your home to reduce wildland fire fuels if you didn't take care of it in September. Just remember to mow when the grass is not bone dry, like the day after a rain, to keep the fire hazard minimal. **Please do not discard any landscape waste in the Reservoir quarry area.**

Consider getting a free Wildland Fire Risk Assessment from the GRR Fire Department. Contact Chief Sprow [marlinsprow32@gmail.com](mailto:marlinsprow32@gmail.com), or email [admin@grrfd.org](mailto:admin@grrfd.org) to set up an appointment.

Check out the GRRFD website Getting Informed section for more information about wildland and home fire preparedness and medical preparedness at: <https://www.grrfd.org>