



SAFETY TIPS FROM THE GRR FIRE DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER 2023

The wildland fire season is in full swing in September. A BURN BAN remains in place in the GRR Rural Fire District and will likely continue for the next two months.

The new fire station is nearly done. Concrete treatment of the floor will be completed in the next two weeks. Firefighters, reservists, and auxiliary members will start moving supplies and equipment into the station on Saturday, 9/9. We will move the vehicles after the floor is done and supplies are organized. We'll send out a separate announcement for the Grand Opening Celebration.

Parched grasses and other fuels burn hot and fast, especially on hot, windy days. "Red Flag Days" are the most hazardous. While grills are OK to use, avoid open fires in pits unless they are covered by spark-retarding screens. Mow only green areas on your lawn and perimeter this month since sparks from mower blades hitting rocks can start a wildland fire. Remove or kill tumbleweeds such as Russian Thistle and Kochia. Most of these are too mature to treat with herbicides at this point; removal is the only option. Remember, as these dry they become fire fuel and can spread fire when they ignite under windy conditions. Do not dispose of property waste in the reservoir quarry area.

Avoid driving on roads where grass and weed have overgrown the road center and avoid parking in places where hot exhaust systems might come in contact with dry vegetation. Carry a 4- or 5-pound fire extinguisher in each vehicle for emergencies.

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

Check out the GRRFD website Getting Informed section for more information about wildland fire preparedness recommendations: <http://www.grrfd.org/get-informed/>.

Please visit the GRR Fire Department website to learn more: <https://www.grrfd.org/>.