

RESOLUTION NO. 12-06-CC-02
ESTABLISHING FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR SWEETWATER COUNTY

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Sweetwater County Fire Warden, the Sweetwater County Board of Commissioners is empowered pursuant to Wyoming Statutes § 35-9-301 through § 35-9-304 to restrict or close areas to fireworks or open fires, when the fire danger in Sweetwater County is extreme because of drought conditions, the presence of an excessive amount of flammable material, or for any other sufficient reason; and

WHEREAS, the Sweetwater County Fire Warden has recommended open fire and fireworks restrictions for the unincorporated and unimproved land within Sweetwater County, except land that is owned by the federal government, and

WHEREAS, the Sweetwater County Board of Commissioners finds there exists an extreme fire danger on the unimproved and unincorporated lands within Sweetwater County because of drought conditions and the presence of excessive amounts of flammable materials, and this extreme fire danger is increased by open burning and the use of fireworks or other incendiary devices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SWEETWATER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

1. Effective June 25th, 2012 at 12:00 A.M., any open fire or discharge of any Class A, B, or C fireworks is prohibited on the unimproved and unincorporated land within Sweetwater County, except federally owned land. This prohibition specifically applies to land owned or controlled by Sweetwater County, including county roads, easements and rights-of-way. This prohibition is subject to the following exceptions:

A. Trash or refuse may be burned between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. if the trash or refuse is burned inside a container equipped with spark arrestors, and if the container is located within an area that is cleared of flammable materials for a radius of at least ten (10) feet. This exception requires compliance with all other regulations and laws regarding the burning of trash or refuse.

B. Campfires are permitted if the fire is contained within an established fire ring at an established campground, provided the fire is in compliance with regulations of the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, or the National Park Service.

C. Charcoal fires within enclosed grills

D. Acetylene cutting torches or electric arc welders may be used if the area surrounding the use of the torches or welders is cleared of flammable material for a radius of at least ten (10) feet.

E. Propane or open fire branding activities are permitted if the branding activities are cleared of all flammable materials for a radius of at least (10) feet.

F. Operation of chain saws is permitted if the chain saw is equipped with a properly installed and functioning spark arrestor.

G. Federal, State or local fire or law enforcement personnel are not subject to this resolution if they are engaged in official activities involving fires, law enforcement or emergencies.

H. Public-sponsored fireworks displays are permitted if the displays are coordinated with the County Fire Warden or his designee.

2. Unimproved land includes crop land, agricultural land and undeveloped land which predominately remains in its natural condition. For example, undeveloped land would include forest or range lands that remain predominately unchanged from their natural condition.

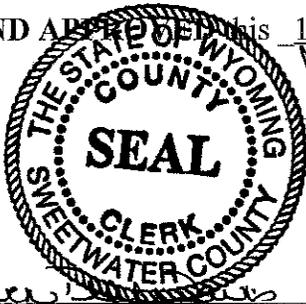
3. The County Fire Warden shall promptly notify the Sweetwater County Commissioners if there are any changes in the severity of the fire danger.

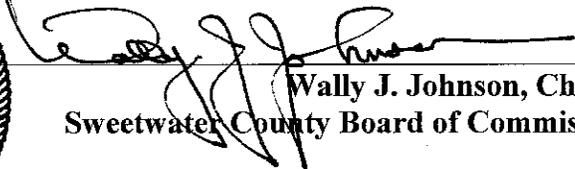
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that penalties provided in Wyoming Statute § 35-9-304 may be imposed for violations of this Resolution; specifically, a fine not to exceed one hundred (100) dollars or imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days or both may be imposed for violations. Restitution costs may be added.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sweetwater County Fire Warden shall immediately notify the Wyoming State Forester of the restrictions imposed by this Resolution, as well as the lifting of any of the restrictions imposed by this Resolution. The Sweetwater County Fire Warden shall assist in providing notification to the public by posting copies of the Resolution, and circulating copies of it to all local media.

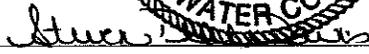
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the fire restrictions stated in this resolution are to be effective and in force on June 25th, 2012 at 12:00 A.M. and shall remain in force and effect until October 1st, 2012 at 12:00 A.M. unless conditions allow for a different date, at which a resolution to lift or extend the restrictions will be presented to the Sweetwater County Board of Commissioners for approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of June, 2012.




Wally J. Johnson, Chairman
Sweetwater County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Steven Dale Davis,
Sweetwater County Clerk