



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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ANNUAL OPEN BURN BAN NOTIFICATION

FREDERICK, MD -- The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) reminds county residents that there is an open burning ban in effect from June 1st through August 31st. Open burning permits cannot be used during this time period. This ban does not apply to small recreational fires such as campfires, the use of barbeques, or gas grills.

The annual ban, which is required by the Maryland State Air Quality regulations, first went into effect in June 1995. The ban extends throughout the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Region and is designed to reduce the high ozone levels that affect the region during the summer months, allowing for better air quality.

The FCHD would also like to remind residents that when burning is allowed, an open burning permit is required from the Health Department. Permits can be obtained by visiting the FCHD, Environmental Health Office located at 350 Montevue Lane, Entrance A.

Violation of the open burning ban or open burning without a permit is subject to a fine of up to \$500 under the Frederick County Code, under Maryland State Regulations, the penalty may be up to \$25,000. Burning of household trash is not allowed at any time of the year. For additional information, contact the Community Services in the Environmental Health Services Division of the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1717.

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