

RESOLUTION 2026 - 9
STAGE 1 OPEN BURNING RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, a potentially severe to extreme fire situation exists throughout Weston County, created by a heavy fuel load and dry conditions, that could create situations that over-extend the firefighting capability of local government; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming Statute 35-9-301 through 304 provides that upon the recommendation of the County Fire Warden, the Board of Weston County Commissioners may close the area to any form of use by the public or limit such use which shall include the prohibition of any type of open fire for such periods of time as the Board may deem necessary and proper; and

WHEREAS, the County Fire Warden and the Weston County Fire Protection District Board of Directors have recommended that open burning restrictions be imposed throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming Statutes 35-10-201 through 208 allow for the regulation of fireworks; and

WHEREAS, any violation of this resolution may be in violation of W.S. 35-9-304 punishable by up to 30 days in jail and up to a \$100.00 fine or both together with possible restitution for the cost of fire suppression and damages to others caused by the violation of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, this open burning restriction and ban on the use of fireworks shall begin March 24, 2026. The County Fire Warden may temporarily lift or re-impose these open burning restrictions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Weston County Commissioners hereby implement:

Stage 1 Restrictions:

Discharge of fireworks, exploding target devices and all outdoor fires are prohibited in unimproved areas of Weston County except as provided below:

1. Only small campfires at residences or developed recreation sites, within a fire ring centered within a minimum of 15 feet cleared radius of burnable materials and a shovel and fire suppression means are present at site are permitted.
2. Trash or refuse fires between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., inside containers provided with a spark arrester (no larger than 1/2" grate openings, 1/4" or smaller preferred), centered within a minimum of 15 feet cleared radius of burnable materials and a shovel and fire suppression means are present at site are permitted. (Containers must be completely extinguished outside of these hours)
3. Charcoal fires within enclosed grills centered within a minimum of 15 feet cleared radius of burnable materials and a shovel and fire suppression means are present at site are permitted.
4. Use of acetylene cutting, electric arc welders, or metal grinding centered within a minimum of 15 feet cleared radius of burnable materials and a shovel and fire suppression means are present at site are permitted.
5. The use of portable stoves, lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel or fully enclosed (shepherd type) stove and open fire branding activities centered within a minimum of 15 feet cleared radius of burnable materials and a shovel and fire suppression means are present at site are permitted.

The following persons are exempt from the restrictions imposed in Stage 1 Restrictions:

- a. Any federal, state, or local officers engaged in fire, emergency, and law enforcement activities.
- b. Any member of a rescue or firefighting force engaged in the performance of an official duty.
- c. Exceptions to these restrictions and closures can be made in writing by the Weston County Commissioners.

These restrictions do not include the areas within incorporated cities and towns in Weston County or federal and state lands, as these entities may impose more or less restrictive regulations.

The County Sheriff and the State Forester will be provided a copy of this Resolution when it has been processed.

MADE, DETERMINED AND RESOLVED this 24 day of March, 2026.
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING

WESTON
COUNTY
CLERK

Attest

Debbie Nadlock

Weston County Clerk

[Signature]
Chairman - Weston County Commissioners