



## Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office

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# Montgomery County Outdoor Burning Update

Due to improving conditions and recent rainfall, the Ban on burning of limbs and leaves has been suspended. The ban on burning garbage or rubbish remains in effect year round and cannot be lifted. Burning of rubbish or household garbage in subdivisions or on less than 5 acres is a Class C Misdemeanor with a fine up to \$500. Deputy Fire Marshals continue to issue citations, and will be on duty weeknights and weekends to assist with the enforcement of the ban on garbage burning.

Conroe, Tx October 28, 2011

### Current Conditions:

Most of Montgomery County is currently classified as "moderate" fire danger due to the long term lack of rainfall. Recent rains have led to some green up of lighter fuels such as grasses. As we move into Winter, fire danger will fluctuate dependent mostly on daily weather conditions. Continued lack of rainfall and dead vegetation from winter freezes will be cause for concern in the coming weeks and months.

The Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office will continue to monitor changing conditions and issue warnings whenever conditions warrant. Montgomery County Commissioner's Court will consider whether or not to reinstate the burn ban at its next regular meeting on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Although the area remains in a long term drought, accumulations of brush can present a significant fire hazard as well. With the onset of our Winter weather patterns, there is a window of opportunity for residents to dispose of brush accumulated over the past several months. Although the MCFMO recommends other means of disposal, some residents will choose to burn. Before burning, residents must check for forecast weather conditions, and refrain from burning on any days where a fire weather watch or red flag warning has been issued by the National Weather Service. Always check before burning to insure that there is not a Burn Ban in place for your area.

Brush piles may not contain any rubbish or trash, and may only contain limbs and leaves gathered from the property where the burning is occurring. The burning may not cause a nuisance situation for neighbors.

For more information and daily updates please sign up on our facebook page.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/MCFMO>

Additional information is available on our website as well. [www.mctx.org/fire](http://www.mctx.org/fire)

Link to Fire Danger information

<http://ticc.tamu.edu/PredictiveServices/FuelsFireDanger.htm>

The MCFMO will be sending out daily updates on our Facebook page as well as through media releases.