

**WEBSITE COPY**

Client: MOTBD

Title: MONT-FY22 Fire Aware Toolkit – Website Copy – Preparedness/Awareness

Job #: 1343

Version­: 1

Date: 23 July 21

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**Don’t Start the Spark**

During wildfire season in Montana, it’s important to be fire aware. Before you spend time outside, know how to properly handle fires and prevent their spread. **Always check the area’s current fire stage before heading out because activities could be restricted**.

**Know Campfire Safety**

Know how to safely light, maintain and extinguish your campfire. Drown, stir, drown some more, then feel. If it is too hot to touch, it is too hot to leave. Never leave a campfire unattended. Check fire stage for restrictions.

[Option to insert additional information as it pertains to your area or destination]

**Check Firework Restrictions**

Fireworks are prohibited on public lands. Check local restrictions to learn more.

[Option to insert additional information as it pertains to your area or destination]

**Dispose Cigarettes Properly**

Throw away used cigarettes properly, not on the ground. Check fire stage for smoking area restrictions.

[Option to insert additional information as it pertains to your area or destination]

**Maintain Your Vehicle and Secure Chains**

Before you drive, make sure your vehicle is properly maintained. Low tire pressure, worn breaks, loose tow chains and metal parts could all cause sparks while driving. It’s also important to stay away from dry grass or brush. The heat from mufflers and exhaust pipes can also start a fire.

[Option to insert additional information as it pertains to your area or destination]

**Act Responsibly Around Wildfires**

If there’s a wildfire in the area, please:

* Give firefighters and their equipment space.
* Do not fly drones over or near the fire. Wildfires are a no-drone-zone.
* Check current fire stages and restrictions.

[Option to insert additional information as it pertains to your area or destination]

**Fire Stages and Restrictions**

Go to [mtfireinfo.org](https://www.mtfireinfo.org/) to check the area’s current fire stage and full restriction details.

**Stage One (Yellow)**

No campfires or smoking outside of a vehicle, building or developed rec area.

**Stage Two (Orange)**

No campfires; smoking outside of a vehicle, building or developed rec area; operation of internal combustion engines; explosives; welding, or use of acetylene or other torches with open flames; operation of motorized vehicles off designated roads and trails, and more.

**Closure (Red)**

Area is closed to all entry and recreational activities.

*Violations can result in fine, imprisonment and liability. Exemptions per location, waiver, permit or official duty may apply.*