NEWS RELEASE

September 21, 2017

MASON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 615 W Alder Street SHELTON, WA 98584

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Mason County Burn Ban

COUNTY-WIDE OUTDOOR BURN BAN*

EFFECTIVE 8:00 AM – Thursday – September 21, 2017 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

With the continued fall weather conditions bringing an increase in humidity and wildland fuel moistures, Mason County Department of Community Development in conjunction with the Mason County Fire Chiefs Association is lifting the Stage II Fire Restrictions. The burn ban now reverts to Stage I as follows:

This burn ban applies to OUDOOR BURNING, including land clearing and yard debris; with the <u>exception of recreational fires</u> in approved concrete, stone, or metal pits like those commonly found in campgrounds. The use of charcoal briquettes, gas and propane barbeques will continue to be allowed under the ban.

*Lands protected by Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may have different restrictions. To find out more information or determine if you are in a Department of Natural Resources area visit www.dnr.wa.gov or call the DNR South Puget Sound Region at 360-825-1631.

Recreational fires must:

- Be built in a metal or concrete fire pit, such as those typically found in designated campgrounds; and not be used as debris disposal;
- Grow no larger than three feet in diameter;
- Be located in a clear spot free from any vegetation for at least 10 feet in a horizontal direction, including at least 25 feet away from any structure and allow 20-foot vertical clearance from overhanging branches;
- Be attended at all times by an alert individual and equipment capable of extinguishing the fire with a shovel and a 5-gallon bucket of water or with a connected and charged water hose.
- Completely extinguish campfires by pouring water or moist soil in them and stirring with a shovel until all parts are cool to the touch. The use of self-contained camp stoves is encouraged as an alternative.
- No burning when winds exceed 5 MPH.

For further information, please contact the Mason County Burn Ban Information Line at (360) 427-7799.

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David Windom, Director