



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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Press Release

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Rainfall Not Sufficient to Ease Fire Danger *Seasonal Restrictions on Outdoor Burning Are in Effect*

Frankfort, Ky. (October 25, 2016) – The increased forest fire danger continues despite most areas of the state receiving some much needed rainfall last week. Warm temperatures and winds have already caused dry conditions to return.

As we move into November, leaf drop begins and adds a new layer to already dry fuels. In seasons such as this one where leaf drop occurs on already dry fuels, fire activity can be amplified. A warm, sunny day may seem like a good opportunity to clear dead limbs and leaves from your yard, but Kentucky Division of Forestry officials say now is not a good time to do any outdoor burning. Dry conditions and an increase in the number of forest fires caused by debris burning has prompted the division to ask everyone to wait until conditions change before doing any outdoor burning. During the Fall Forest Fire Season, which began October 1 and lasts until December 15, it is illegal for any person to burn between the daylight hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. While it is not illegal to burn after 6:00 p.m., forestry officials say the dry conditions make burning at anytime dangerous.

"A substantial amount of rainfall over several days is needed to improve the current conditions," says Bill Steele, Director, Kentucky Division of Forestry. "Until then, we're counting on the public to refrain from outdoor burning. Remember fire fighters risk their lives to protect you and your property."

If you have questions about burning restrictions or regulations, please visit our WebPages at <http://forestry.ky.gov> or call the Kentucky Division of Forestry at 502-564-4496.

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