

ODF upgrades fire danger to 'extreme' as high temps continue

Due to prolonged extreme heat and dry conditions, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has raised the fire danger level in western Lane County and parts of northwest Douglas County that it protects to "extreme"

(red), which began July 25. The parts of eastern Lane County and southern Linn County that ODF protects are already at the extreme fire danger level. The use of gas-powered equipment for general public

use is prohibited at all times, with the exception of mowing well-irrigated green grass lawns. Campfires are also prohibited throughout the district, even in areas where they were previously allowed.

"We are well aware that we all have projects or maintenance to do on our properties, but now is the time to take a break and enjoy the summer without the risk of starting a fire by burning backyard debris or building

a campfire," said Dave Kjosness of the Western Lane District. "We encourage the public to continue to think about safety first. We'd rather see you at the lake than at the perimeter of a fire." For updates on fire season

and the fire danger levels in the Western Lane District, the public may call the district's Veneta office at 541-935-2222 or check the district's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ODF-WesternLane.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS INCREASE AMONG LANE COUNTY AREA PARKS

Due to the high risk of fire in our area, as well as recently issued emergency orders from several fire districts, Lane County Parks will be enforcing these restrictions at several parks:

- No open flames are allowed in Lane County

parks, including no campfires, warming fires, cooking fires or ceremonial fires.

- Gas-powered barbeques and cooking stoves using liquid or bottled fuels are allowed, but are restricted to use for cooking purposes only.

• Open flames are prohibited at day use areas in Lane County parks.

• Tobacco use and vaping are already prohibited in Lane County parks.

- Any other spark-emitting operation not specifically mentioned is prohib-

ed. Not included in these restrictions are coastal Lane County parks located west of milepost 18 on Highway 126, including Archie Knowles Campground and Harbor Vista Campground.

Lane County will continue to monitor weather conditions, especially humidity and wind, to determine if further restrictions become necessary, including potential park and trail closures.

While these restrictions may cause some inconvenience to park visitors, Lane County appreciates the understanding of the community as we work together to protect our highly valued public parks and the safety of park users.

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ASHES *from A1*

him or dump him on the side of the road," she asked, and offered her telephone number where she can be reached by

calling or texting.

She hopes whoever whoever has the ashes or know where they are will provide her with a location to recover her son's remains.

Renfro can be reached at

541-221-3483.

"Christopher deserves better than to be stolen away at night and kept from his mother," said Renfro.

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