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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **Wildfire Preparedness is Year-Round** *Know Before You Go!*

**SANTA FE** – This Memorial Day weekend you can do your part to support firefighters by preventing human-caused wildfire ignitions. Fire restrictions may be in place at the location you plan to visit or even where you live. Do your part to prevent wildfires by learning about fire restrictions before you plan your weekend activities or any recreation on public lands this summer.

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department's [Forestry Division](#) is working with local, state, federal, and Tribal partners and non-governmental organizations to provide monthly wildfire preparedness tips and information. Continuing our "wildfire preparedness is year-round" campaign, the message for June is **Know Before You Go!**

Here are a few things to keep in mind before planning your outdoor activities this summer:

- Always [check for fire restrictions](#) and closures in the area you plan to visit BEFORE you leave.
  - **Stage 1 Fire Restriction:** Prohibits building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove, except within a developed recreation site, or improved site.
    - Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
    - Possessing, discharging or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device.
  - **Stage 2 Fire Restriction:** Prohibits building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove in any location.
    - Smoking
    - Using fireworks, explosives or other incendiary devices.
    - Operating a chainsaw, or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine, is prohibited.
    - Operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order.
    - Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.

- Possessing or using a motor vehicle off roads on federal lands, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the roadway.
  - Violating any state law, that specifically concerns burning, fires, or that which is for the purpose of preventing or restricting the spread of fire
- Check weather conditions at [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) **before** you leave on your trip.
  - Read information boards and signs for local regulations and safety information.
- Make sure you are not dragging chains, parking on dry grass, and that all smoking-related embers are safely disposed of during your travel to and from public lands.

The New Mexico Forestry Division is working with the [Forest Stewards Guild](#) and [FACNM](#), the [Santa Fe](#), [Cibola](#) and [Carson](#) National Forests, [New Mexico Coalition of Conservation Districts](#), [National Park Service](#), [Bureau of Indian Affairs](#), and [Bureau of Land Management New Mexico](#) to continue our wildfire preparedness calendar in 2023 and share the message across multiple platforms, including social media, webinars and community events. Bookmark the [wildfire preparedness webpage](#) to follow the campaign throughout the year.

Link to this press release here.



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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*  
<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov>

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# Know Before You Go!



# 2024

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