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Sheriff Lou Vallario
Garfield County, Colorado

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 6, 2018

Time: 11:55 AM

Title: Fire Restrictions Lifted in Garfield County

IMPORTANT: Please direct any media requests to the contact above. Do not contact the Garfield County Emergency Communications Center or Patrol staff for media requests.

GARFIELD COUNTY, CO. –

Friday September 7, 2018 at 12:01 AM Garfield County Sheriff's Office in cooperation with the six Fire Districts in Garfield County, (Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District, the Glenwood Springs Fire Department, Colorado River Fire Rescue, Grand Valley Fire, Gypsum Fire and the De Beque and Lower Valley Fire) will lift all fire restrictions on unincorporated private and state lands within Garfield County.

Additionally the City of Rifle (reflecting County restrictions), the White River National Forest and BLM lands managed by Colorado River Valley Field Office (CRVFO) in Eagle, Garfield and Pitkin counties will lift their fire restrictions at the same time.

This collaborative effort by all parties involved acknowledges the public's efforts to recreate responsibly while maintaining a level of safety for everyone. The joint movement to lift fire restrictions will serve to reduce confusion of where and what is allowed throughout Garfield County.

People in Garfield County and particularly those who will be camping or hunting are reminded that while campfires are allowed, we are still experiencing extremely dry conditions. Please take extra care when starting your campfire to assure that it is in a safe location, properly banked and you have the means, readily available, to extinguish it. Remember smaller fires are better and cook stoves are much easier to prepare your food on than an open fire.

People are also reminded that this is not the time to burn your slash piles or accumulated wood debris from your summer projects. Burn permits are still required even if you are only burning a pile of leaves. Please contact your local fire department for information on where and when to burn, each jurisdiction will make the decision that is right for their area based on current local conditions and any foreseeable weather conditions.

You should also check with your local municipality to determine what restrictions they are enforcing within their city limits.

Everyone is reminded that if you are found responsible for starting a wildfire, you may well face restitution costs of suppressing that fire, and depending on circumstances, a variety of other charges including possible felony charges may be forthcoming. Be smart, be careful, protect our environment and protect each other.

The Garfield County Sheriff's Office, Garfield County, the various municipalities within Garfield County, Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service would like to thank everyone in Garfield County for their cooperation in doing their part to keep us all safe during the past months. We hope that everyone has a quiet and safe Fall.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

The mission of the Garfield County Sheriff's Office is to provide solutions for the people through professional, ethical and compassionate conduct.

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