

SITUATION REPORT

Winter Edition JEFFERSON COUNTY MT

From 0001hrs Sunday, **12/22/24** through 2359hrs Saturday, **12/28/24**.

CONDITIONS SUMMARY

National Weather Service Outlooks/Advisories/Watches/Warnings

Current Hazard(s)	Area	Duration
None		

There are four weather hazard forecast categories:

- Outlook: Risk of weather hazard in the next 7 days. Could pose a threat to life/property.
- Advisory: Weather hazard is occurring, imminent or likely. Could cause significant inconvenience.
- Watch: Risk of weather hazard soon. Could pose a threat to life/property.
- Warning: Weather Hazard is occurring, imminent or likely. Poses a threat to life/property.

6-10 Day Climate Outlook from the National Weather Service

Temperature	Near normal predicted
Precipitation	Above normal predicted

Weekly weather hazard key points from the National Weather Service

- Periods of snow are forecast for most of the week, with temperatures trending cooler.

Drought Status from NOAA

Area	Current Drought Condition	Previous Report Drought Condition
N Jefferson County	D2	D2
SE Jefferson County	D1/D2	D1/D2
West Jefferson County	D2/D3	D2/D3

The six drought conditions are: None; D0: Abnormally Dry; D1: Moderate Drought; D2: Severe Drought; D3: Extreme Drought; D4: Exceptional Drought.

Earthquake Summary from USGS

Area	YTD # of Earthquake Occurrences (> M1.0)	Previous Report # of Earthquake Occurrences
Jefferson County	28	28

Air Quality from Montana DEQ

Location	Current Condition	Previous Report
Helena	Good	Good
Butte	Good	Good

The six air quality conditions and descriptions are:

Good: Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.

Moderate: Air quality is acceptable, however there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (SG): Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The public is less likely to be affected.

Unhealthy: Some members of the public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.

Very Unhealthy: Health alert: the risk of health effects is increased for everyone.

Hazardous: Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.

Fire Restrictions	
Current Status	Interagency campfire & forest activity restrictions. Applicable to recreational fires under 48" in diameter.
X	No restrictions on campfires or forest activities
	Stage 1 Restrictions Campfires are limited to improved rings 3 feet or smaller in size; outdoor smoking is limited to areas cleared of vegetation for 3 feet.
	Stage 2 Restrictions Stage 1 restrictions plus total campfire ban, 1pm-1am forest activity limits with patrol requirement.
	Area closures: None
Current Status	County debris burning (slash pile burning) restrictions. Applicable to ALL fires over 48" in diameter. BBQ pits and burn barrels are considered open fires on DNRC Forest Classified lands and therefore require a burning permit in those locations even if under 48" in size. (36.10.132(10), ARM)
X	No restrictions for debris burning county-wide. County burn permit & permit activation required. Between Dec. 1 & Feb. 28 DEQ application & approval also required*.
	Some fire districts/fire service areas with debris burning closures:
	Debris burning closed county-wide.
Current Period	Montana DEQ debris burning restriction period.
	Spring/Summer burning period (March 1 – August 31) County burn permit & permit activation required.
	Fall burning period (Sept.1 – Nov 30) County burn permit & permit activation required. The burner also must check DEQ ventilation hotline (800-225-6779 or www.burnclosures.mt.gov) for current air quality conditions.
X	Winter burning period (Dec 1 – Feb 28). DEQ application & approval required for burning*. County burn permit & county permit activation is still required in addition to DEQ permit.
<p>*DEQ winter burning restrictions in effect from December 1st – February 28th annually. Call MT DEQ at 406-444-3490 to begin the winter burn approval process. DEQ application and special procedures required in addition to county permit.</p>	

NRCS Snow Water Equivalencies

Location	Current		Previous Report	
	% of median	Percentile	% of median	Percentile
Helena Valley (north of Boulder Hill) SNOTEL site #'s: 360, 487, 903,893	71	6	63	3
Jefferson River Basin (south of Boulder Hill) SNOTEL site #'s: 487, 722	63	8	59	12

Snow water equivalent is the depth of water that would result from the melting of the snowpack.

* = Basin dataset may be unreliable due to missing information.

NRCS Precipitation Water Year-to-Date (October 1- September 30)

Location	Current		Previous Report	
	% of median	Percentile	% of median	Percentile
Helena Valley (north of Boulder Hill) SNOTEL site #'s: 360, 487, 903,893	69	11	64	8
Jefferson River Basin (south of Boulder Hill) SNOTEL site #'s: 487, 722	50	0	49	2

* = Basin dataset may be unreliable due to missing information.

USGS Streamflow in Cubic Feet per Second (CFS)

Stream/Location	Latest Observed CFS	Percentile	Previous Report CFS	Previous Report Percentile	Historical data for today's date		
					Mean	High	Low
Prickly Pear Creek – Clancy	17	25th	18.2	< 50th	23	45	9.02
Boulder River – Boulder	n/a - ice		n/a - ice				
Jefferson River – Three Forks	1080	< 75th	1050	< 75th	1130	2340	350
Jefferson River – Twin Bridges	847	< 50th	n/a - ice		1020	1700	550

Road Conditions: Visit MDT's interactive road conditions map at: www.511mt.net

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Burn Permit Data

Data Point	Current YTD	Previous Report YTD	2023 Total
Total Permit Sales	684	676	687
Total Activations	1715	1688	1685
December Activations	76	49	68

Countywide Calls for Service (CFS)

Type	Last Week	Previous Report	YTD	2023
Wildfires	0	0	59	26
Structure Fires	1	2	24	20
Other Fire Calls*	2	7	292	261
Motor Vehicle Accidents (Injury and Non-Injury)	6	17	554	656
EMS BLS Calls	6	9	583	622
EMS ALS Calls	8	3	282	234
Year-to-Date Total Calls for Service Includes all the above plus law enforcement CFS.	12,031	11,849		

*Other Fire Calls include Arson, Aircraft Incidents, Downed Wires, Electrical Hazards, Explosions, Fire Alarms, Fire Restriction Violations, Fireworks, Gas Leaks, HAZMAT, Smoke Reports, and Vehicle Fires.

Statewide Montana Wildfire Data

Current Report		Previous Report		2023 Total Quantity	2023 Total Acreage
2024 YTD Quantity	2024 YTD Acreage	2024 YTD Quantity	2024 YTD Acreage		
2321	352,547	2319	352,524	1662	123,133

INFORMATION SUMMARY

Training Opportunities

Course	Date/Time	Location	Contact/Registration
ICS 400	1/21-1/22	Great Falls	gviollette@cascadecountymt.gov
ICS 300	2/12-2/14	Helena	https://forms.office.com/g/Vh73MLJ3de
ICS 300	2/24-2/26	Helena	https://forms.office.com/g/Vh73MLJ3de
DNRC Basic Wildland	3/7-3/9	Cascade County TBA	scott.ward@mt.gov
G318 Local Mitigation Planning	4/15-4/17	Fairmont Hot Springs	TBA
MGT-318 Public Information for All-Haz.	4/22-4/23	Bozeman	TBA
DNRC Wildland Fire Academy	5/28-6/6	TBA	TBA

Exercise Opportunities

Exercise	Date/Time	Location	Contact

Grant Opportunities

Grant	Due Date	Contact

Collaboration Opportunities

Dates/Times	Event
1/6 @ 1830	L&C County Fire Council
1/9 @ 0900	Tri-County FireSafe Working Group – Montana City
1/9 @ 0930	Homeland Security Strategic Planning Meeting
1/9 @ 1030	Helena/Great Falls Fire Restrictions Coordination AAR
1/10 @ 1200	MTDES Legislative Session Check-In (MEMA)
1/15 @ 0900	FireSafe Montana – Montana City
1/15 @ 1300	SW MT COAD - Bozeman
1/17 @ 1200	MTDES Legislative Session Check-In (MEMA)
1/21 @ 1500	L&C County LEPC - Helena
1/21 @ 1830	Jefferson County Rural Fire Council - Clancy
1/23 @ 1300	MTDES Statewide Coordination Call
1/24 @ 1200	MTDES Legislative Session Check-In (MEMA)

Jefferson County Office of Emergency Management Upcoming Out of Office Schedule

Dates	Event
1/2-1/3	Out of Office – In State
1/24-2/7	Out of Office – Out of State

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

- Debris burning (slash pile burns over 48" in size) is open county-wide, however Montana DEQ's Winter Burning Period is in effect as of December 1st. During this period, burners are not only required to purchase and activate a county burn permit for each day of their burn, but they must also apply for and receive a permit from Montana DEQ prior to burning. Burners can visit <https://deq.mt.gov/air/Programs/burning> or call 406-444-1452 for more information regarding the Winter Burn Period and to apply for a Winter Burn Request. The Winter Burn Period extends through the last day of February.

HOW TO GET EMERGENCY INFORMATION IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

- Sign up for emergency phone notifications:
<https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BFD59278BCD2>
- Follow the Jefferson County, Montana Sheriff's Office Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCountyMontanaSheriffsOffice>
- Tune into your local low-power FM radio station: Basin: 98.3FM; Boulder: 105.9FM; Cardwell: 106.1FM; Elk Park: 103.7FM; Jefferson City/Clancy: 100.3FM; Montana City/Clancy: 105.9FM; Whitehall: 106.5FM.

The Jefferson County, MT Situation Report is a weekly product of Jefferson County's Office of Emergency Management. Conditions data points are as of the morning of the issuance of the Situation Report, while activity data points are for the previous week. Situation Report Incident Editions may occur in the event of major incidents. Major incidents are generally incidents with widespread impacts or incidents whose duration is greater than one operational period. If you wish to unsubscribe from this email list, please email: ddodge@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov