



18 East 22nd St.
Kearney, NE 68848-1180
(308) 233-3214
www.cityofkearney.org

CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

Issued Date: December 23, 2025

Point of Contact: Jason Whalen, Fire Administrator, (308) 233-3226

Burn Ban

Due to extremely dry conditions, all Buffalo County Fire Departments are issuing a county wide burning ban until we receive measurable moisture. This burning ban includes Amherst, Elm Creek, Gibbon, Kearney, Miller, Pleasanton, Ravenna, and Shelton Fire Districts.

There is always a statewide open burning ban on all bonfires, outdoor rubbish fires, and fires for the purpose of clearing land, however, a burn permit can be obtained from the local fire chief on a form prescribed by the State of Nebraska when conditions are appropriate.

No Open Burn Permits will be issued in an effort to preserve the lives and property of the citizens we serve in our fire district. Warmer conditions, lack of winter moisture and low relative humidity have caused vegetation to dry quickly. All Buffalo County Fire Chiefs also encourage residents to avoid burning in burn barrels during this ban. Extreme caution should always be used when using burning barrels and should have an appropriate screen on top to deter burning debris from escaping the barrel. All outdoor activities that may lead to sparks or flames which could possibly ignite a wild fire are highly discouraged. If absolutely necessary, these activities should be performed with extreme caution and fire extinguishing capabilities should be readily available. The individual Fire Departments will determine when conditions are appropriate to resume issuing burn permits.

We all appreciate the assistance and cooperation of our residents in this matter of safety.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Kearney Fire Department at (308) 233-3226.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.