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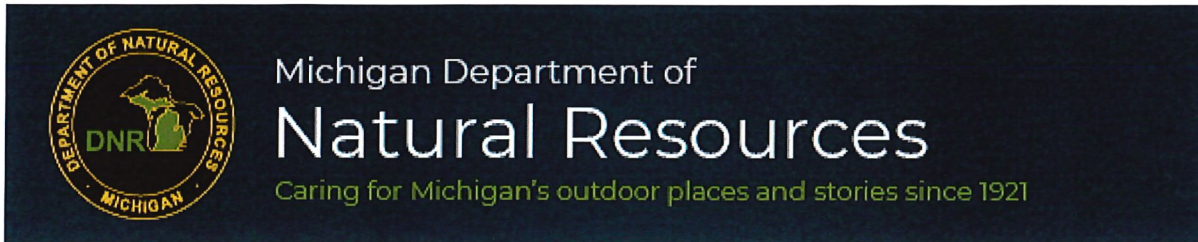
Think twice about burning this weekend

2 messages

Michigan DNR <MIDNR@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
To: clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov

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DNR News

April 10, 2025

Contact: [Jeff Vasher](#), resource protection manager, 989-745-2942

Think twice about burning this weekend; Fire risk high



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is urging residents and visitors to exercise extreme caution this weekend as [fire risk is expected to be high](#) throughout Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Forecasts predict warmer and drier conditions, increasing the likelihood of wildfires.

Although it's springtime and many people are eager to get started on yard work or brush burning, it's important to keep fire risks in mind. Dry conditions can allow fires to spread rapidly, posing a significant danger to people, property and natural resources.

"We understand that spring cleaning and yard maintenance is on everyone's to-do list, but we urge residents to exercise caution," said Jeff Vasher, a resource protection manager with the DNR. "A small fire can quickly get out of control under these dry conditions, and we ask that folks follow safe burning practices or postpone burning altogether, if possible."

Southern regions of the state will face the highest risk, particularly in areas where dry vegetation can easily ignite. Always check with local authorities regarding [burn permit requirements](#) in your area and review [fire conditions](#) prior to burning.

If burning is permitted, the DNR urges those doing so to follow these essential safety precautions:

- Keep burn piles small and manageable.
- Have a hose or a 5-gallon pail of water readily available.
- Keep necessary tools, such as rakes and shovels, nearby to help control flames if needed.
- If a fire escapes your control call 911 emergency dispatchers immediately.

The recent ice storm left downed and damaged trees across northern Michigan. To help with cleanup efforts, 17 public debris disposal sites are now open to serve the 12-county disaster area. A map of these locations is included in the [2025 Northern Michigan Ice Storm dashboard](#) at Michigan.gov/MSP.

Check the location listing for hours of operation and permissible items. Some locations are accepting tree debris only, and others will accept all vegetative debris. Note that it is unlawful to dump or dispose of debris on public lands or property. Be aware that moving vegetative debris can spread invasive insects, plants and diseases.

Everyone can play a role in preventing wildfires by following local regulations and practicing safe burning methods.

[DNR fire conditions ▶](#)

Note to editors: An accompanying photo is available below for download. Caption information follows. Credit: Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Caution: Have tools and water readily available if you are burning. To check whether burning is permitted in your area, visit: Michigan.gov/BurnPermit.



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