



Office of Emergency Management

751 Ute Ave. – P.O. Box 295 - Kiowa, CO 80117
PH: 303.805.6131/Fx: 303.805.6159 • Email: OEM@ElbertCounty-CO.Gov



PRESS RELEASE

Elbert County Board of County Commissioners **Burn Restriction Level lifted to Stage I** **Effective September 17th, 2008**

On Wednesday, September 17th, 2008, The Elbert County Board of County Commissioners, at the recommendation of the Elbert County Fire Chiefs Association, downgraded the county wide burn ban for all unincorporated areas of Elbert County back to a Stage I level. This will remain in effect until further notice. Recent moisture received in the county and cooler temperatures have reduced the fire danger.

Under the Stage I restrictions, **no open burning is allowed**. The safe use of charcoal and gas grills are allowed and not affected by this ban. As always, contact your local fire protection district for burn permits. Violation of the burn restriction carries penalties for 1st time offenses of \$110.00 as set forth in the county burn restriction ordinance 06-01.

'Just because the fire danger is lower doesn't mean fires won't start. Some of Elbert County's largest fires have occurred between October and January! Contact your local fire protection district for fire safety information and burn permits. Fall is a great time to clean up and mitigate fire danger around your property. Check out www.firewise.org for fire defensible space tips', said OEM Coordinator, Denny Van Why.

For further information call the Elbert County Office of Emergency Management at 303.805.6132 or your local Fire Protection District.