



# Emergency Communications

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## COUNTYWIDE BURNING BAN ON RED FLAG WARNING DAYS

A 2016 agreement reached by all jurisdiction's Fire Chiefs recognizes a countywide burning ban on those days when the National Weather Service (NWS) issues a Red Flag warning for St. Croix County. When the NWS announces a Red Flag warning for St. Croix County every municipality and fire district will be under a burning ban until the warning is lifted.

The countywide burning ban shall exist for the duration of any Red Flag warning issued by the NWS.

Once the NWS notifies the St. Croix County Emergency Communications Center of the Red Flag warning, a notification is sent to all fire chiefs and municipal officials. When residents call the Emergency Communications center to report they intend to have a fire the dispatchers will inform them of the Red Flag warning burning ban.

The NWS issues a Red Flag warning when weather conditions of particular importance are present or anticipated within 24 hours of issuance. This occurs whenever a geographical area has been in a dry spell for a week or two, or for a shorter period, before spring green-up or after fall color and the National Fire Danger Rating System is high to extremely high and the following forecast weather parameters are forecasted to be met:

- Sustained wind average of 15 mph or greater
- Relative humidity less than or equal to 25 percent
- Temperature of greater than 75 degrees

A week after our 12+ inches of snow (The weekend of April 20 – 22) the Emergency Communications Center received 394 calls from county residents informing us they were going to have a fire. We know when the Red Alert warning days come it will affect many of our residents.

We want everyone to be safe and well informed out there.

