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External Fire Weather Update Thursday April 4, 2019 10:00 AM

RED FLAG WARNINGS ISSUED FOR ALL OF CONNECTICUT AND SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND FOR TODAY...CRITICAL FIRE WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED THIS AFTERNOON...

The National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for critical fire weather conditions, which is in effect from 9:00 AM this morning to 8:00 PM this evening. This warning is in effect for all of southern New England. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has suspended all open burning permits for today for open fires within 100 feet of a grassland or woodland.

Windy and dry conditions today are forecast to create critical fire weather conditions during the day. Our area is vulnerable to critical fire weather conditions at this time of the year because green-up and leaf-out has not yet occurred. The strong April sunshine can quickly dry out grass, leaves, sticks and brush (a.k.a. fuels) on the forest floor.

Any grass or brush fires that get ignited today can spread quickly in these conditions. The highest threat is expected between 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM when the relative humidity will be at its lowest level for the day with brisk west winds gusting to 25 - 35 MPH at times. Towns are encouraged to closely monitor their areas for grass and brush fires.

A few local brush or grass fires of 1 - 5 acres in size are typical in these conditions, however larger fires do occasionally occur. Any significant brush or grass fires should be reported to your DEMHS Regional Office as time permits.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection will continue to closely monitor weather conditions today. However, this will be the only external update unless significant fire activity occurs.

FIRE WEATHER CONDITIONS

For Today...

West Winds at 10 – 20 MPH

Gusts to 35 MPH

Relative Humidity as low as 15 – 20%

High Temperatures 45 – 55 F

Current Fire Danger is High

WATCH/WARNING AREA



[Watches, Warnings & Advisories](#)



[Red Flag Warning](#)



[Small Craft Advisory](#)



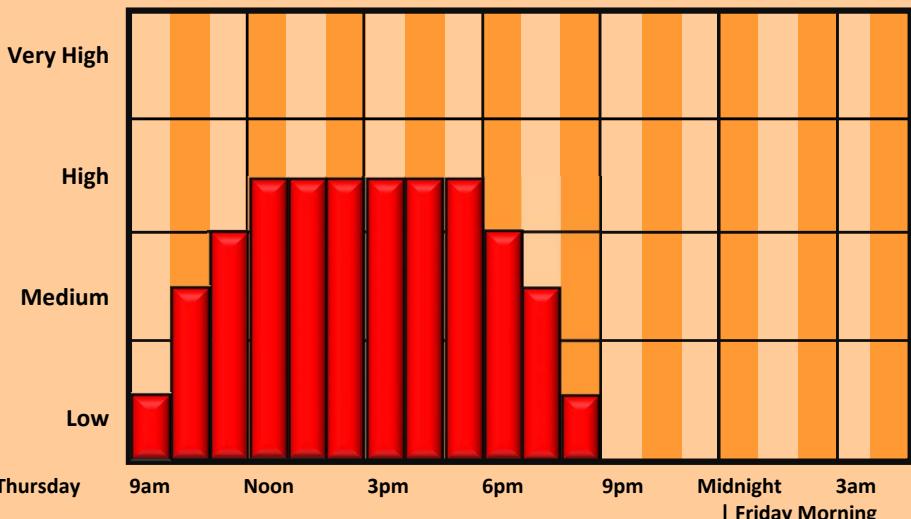
[Special Weather Statement](#)



[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)



FIRE DANGER THREAT TIMING



MESSAGE FROM DEEP

If you have received a permit from your local Open Burning Official to burn brush on your property, the permit is not valid if the Forest Fire Danger is rated high, very high or extreme and you are burning within 100 feet of a grassland or woodland.

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