



News Release

Date: July 21, 2008
To: All Media
From: Mark Boyer, Public Information Officer
Telephone: 910-798-7493
Fax: 910-798-7494
maboyer@nhcgov.com
Also posted at <http://www.nhcgov.com>
Re: Outdoor Burning Bans Lifted

(New Hanover County)— Effective 8:00am Monday July 21, 2008 the local Burning Ban for New Hanover County has been lifted. An outdoor burning ban issued by the NC Division of Forest Resources was lifted Friday afternoon for counties in Eastern North Carolina.

Because of recent rainfall and atmospheric conditions the County Fire Marshal has decided to lift the local burning ban. Fire Service officials advise that if people burn leaves and other vegetative materials they should take the same precautions they would have if it had not rained because fires can easily escape and become dangerous. Some important rules to follow if you burn include:

- Citizens are urged to use caution when burning natural vegetative debris and should have adequate extinguishing methods and be in constant attendance of the fire. Open burning may include burning leaves, branches and other plant material that originate from the property.
- It is illegal to burn trash, lumber, tires, newspapers, plastics or other non-vegetative materials.
- Be prepared before burning. Keep fire tools available. To control a fire, you will need a garden hose, a bucket, a steel rake and a shovel for tossing dirt on the fire. Never use kerosene, gasoline, diesel fuel or other flammable liquids to speed or start burning.
- Always stay with the fire until it has been fully extinguished.
- Contractors should consult with North Carolina Forestry before land clearing burning.

If you have any questions about the lifting of the burning ban, please contact The Fire Marshal's office (798-7420) or your local County Forest Ranger (251-5750).

MB