

PROCLAMATION

MISSOULA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MISSOULA, MONTANA

WHEREAS, wildfire smoke is a serious and growing public health threat, and the more scientists learn about the dangers of smoke exposure, the more we need to act; and

WHEREAS, wildfire smoke causes worsened asthma attacks, decreased lung function, worsened COPD symptoms, increased susceptibility to infectious disease, increased risk of heart attack and stroke, and increased hospitalizations and deaths; and

WHEREAS, the National Interagency Fire Center is predicting significant wildfire potential throughout much of the western United States in 2022, including in regions that send smoke to our area; and

WHEREAS, our adopted *Climate Ready Missoula* plan finds that our summers are becoming hotter and drier, wildfire season is getting longer, wildfire smoke is an increasing risk, and we need to enact strategies to mitigate harm; and

WHEREAS, wildfire smoke can come indoors, creating unhealthy conditions both outside and inside; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to decrease the risk this smoke poses by creating cleaner indoor air spaces and reducing outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, public messaging focused on the dangers of wildfire smoke and how individuals can protect themselves plays an important role in individual preparedness during wildfire season.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we, Missoula County and the City of Missoula, do hereby proclaim July 9-16 as

WILDFIRE SMOKE READY WEEK

to inform and educate Missoula County and City residents of the hazard that wildfire smoke presents and how to mitigate it.

DATED THIS 7TH DAY OF JULY

CITY OF MISSOULA

COUNTY OF MISSOULA

John Engen
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John Engen, Mayor

Juanita Vero
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Juanita Vero, Chair

Josh Slotnick
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Josh Slotnick, Commissioner

David Strohmaier
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David Strohmaier, Commissioner

