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NAME: News Editors/ News Directors

FROM: The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office

DATE: July 30, 2012

TIME: 3:30 PM

Total number of pages 2, including this page.

MEDIA RELEASE

ARAPAHOE COUNTY BURNING BAN LIFTED IN AREAS WEST OF GUN CLUB ROAD REMAINS IN EFFECT IN SPECIFIED AREAS AND THE CHERRY CREEK STATE PARK

The Arapahoe County Open Burning Ban involving all open fires and open burning, issued by the Arapahoe County Sheriff, remains in effect in areas east of Gun Club Road, including unincorporated Arapahoe County, the town of Bennett and the Town of Deer Trail. The Open Burning Ban also remains in effect in the Cherry Creek State Park. The modified Open Burning Ban will remain in effect until such time as this order is formally rescinded or temporarily suspended by the Sheriff.

Arapahoe County Sheriff, Grayson Robinson, in cooperation with local Fire Chiefs and Emergency Managers, has determined that existing conditions and fuel loads across the eastern portions of Arapahoe County and within the Cherry Creek State Park continue to present a danger for the possibility of wildfire and large wild-land fires. The authority to implement the **OPEN BURNING BAN** within Unincorporated Arapahoe County and communities served by the Sheriff's Office is provided through Arapahoe County Ordinance 2000-02 and Colorado Revised Statute 30-10-512.

Prohibited open fires or open burning shall be defined as the **use of fireworks, outdoor fires, including, but not limited to: campfires; fires in constructed, permanent fire pits or fire grates, within developed camp and picnic grounds or recreation sites, warming fires; fires in outdoor wood-burning stoves (chimney sparks or embers); the prescribed burning of fence lines, fence rows, fields, farmlands, rangelands, wild-lands, trash or debris.**

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The Arapahoe County Sheriff's **OPEN BURNING BAN** is enforced as a County Ordinance violation that, upon conviction, could result in fines of \$500.00 for the first offense, \$750.00 for a second offense, and \$1,000 for a third and subsequent offenses.

OPEN BURNING BAN EXCEPTIONS

The following shall be exempt from the **OPEN BURNING BAN**:

- Fires contained within liquid-fueled or gas stoves, fireplaces and wood-burning stoves/fireplaces within habitable buildings.
- Propane/LP/Natural Gas fueled barbecue grills used for cooking or warming food, which do not produce or emit sparks or embers when used.
- Charcoal fueled grills at private residences used for cooking or warming food, which do not produce or emit sparks or embers when used.
- Propane/LP/Natural Gas fueled fire pits that do not produce or emit sparks or embers when used.
- Fires set by any federal, state, or local officer, or member of a fire protection district in the performance of an official duty.

For additional information contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at 720.874.4165.

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