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NAME: News Editors/ News Directors

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MEDIA RELEASE

ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN BURNING BAN REMAINS IN EFFECT WITH ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

On June 14, 2012 Governor John W. Hickenlooper issued Executive Order D 2012 -015 regarding a statewide **Ban On Open Burning**. While the Governor's Executive Order defines certain guidance related to The Open Burning Ban, the Executive Order also authorizes each Sheriff to implement open burning bans which are more restrictive than the direction provided by the Governor. The Arapahoe County Open Burning Ban involving all open fires and open burning, issued by the Arapahoe County Sheriff, remains in effect within Unincorporated Arapahoe County, the City of Centennial, the Town of Foxfield, the Town of Bennett, the Town of Deer Trail and the Cherry Creek State Park. The Open Burning Ban will remain in effect until such time as this order is formally rescinded or temporarily suspended by the Sheriff.

The Arapahoe County Open Burning Ban is expanded to include a prohibition on the use of all fireworks and charcoal fueled fires.

Arapahoe County Sheriff, Grayson Robinson, has determined that existing conditions in Arapahoe County present an extreme danger for the possibility of wildfire and large wildland 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. The authority to implement the **OPEN BURNING BAN** within the City of Centennial is provided through Colorado Revised Statutes 30-15-401(1)(n.5) and (8) as well as by the direction of Mayor Cathy Noon, on behalf of the Centennial City Council.

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Prohibited open fires or open burning shall be defined as the **use of any 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, charcoal fueled fires, warming fires; fires in outdoor wood-burning stoves (chimney sparks or embers); the prescribed burning of fence lines, fence rows, fields, farmlands, rangelands, wildlands, trash or debris.**

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.
- 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.
- Public fireworks displays supervised by appropriate firefighting/public safety personnel and supported by adequate equipment assigned to be on the scene of such permitted public displays.

The Arapahoe County and the City of Centennial Fire Ban is implemented as a result of discussions between Arapahoe County Sheriff Grayson Robinson, area Fire Chiefs, Emergency Managers, the Board of County Commissioners and the City of Centennial.

For additional information contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at 720.874.4165.

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