



Latah County Idaho  
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# JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

## CERT MEETINGS and Local Events:

August 5th is the National Night Out Against Crime in downtown Moscow, ID from 6:00-8:00 pm. The Police will be hosting games, activities, and a raffle and there will be other first responders and food during the event.

August 6th from 6:00-8:00 pm Whitman CERT will host skills training in setting up and taking down Red Cross shelters at the Pullman City Hall at 190 SE Crestview St., Pullman, WA.

## **FIRE PITS, CAMPFIRES, CHIMNEYS, AND OUTDOOR FIREPLACES**

- ☑ Build campfires at least 25 feet from tents, shrubs and anything that burns.
- ☑ Use chimneys, outdoor fireplaces and fire pits outdoors at least 10 feet from the home and anything that burns.
- ☑ Closely watch children when firepits are used.
- ☑ Use a metal screen over wood-burning fires to keep sparks from floating out.
- ☑ Turn off or put out fires before you leave.

## ***SUMMERTIME: Fire Safety***

To continue with our theme of summertime fun and safety, this newsletter will look at the different types of fire safety that we need to employ to keep our family and friends enjoying all the great summer activities. We want everyone to enjoy vacations, camping, picnics and other outdoor fun. And as always, we have a few suggestions for all around fire safety in our daily lives.

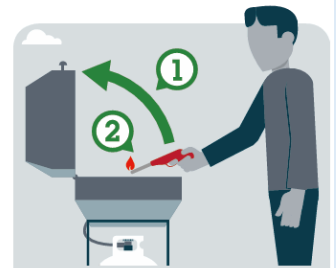
### **Stay fire safe this summer! Follow these grilling safety tips.**



Only use your grill outside. Keep it at least 3 feet from siding, deck rails and eaves.



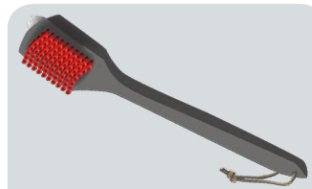
Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill. This will keep kids and pets safe.



Open your gas grill before lighting.



Keep an eye on your grill, fire pit or patio torches. Don't walk away from them when they are lit.



Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.



Place the coals from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.

Wildland fires are popping up more frequently, they are larger and more dangerous, and they are occurring in places with no history of wildfires. According to the Department of the Interior, nearly 85% of wildland fires in the US are caused by humans. Human-caused fires result from campfires left unattended, the burning of debris, equipment use and malfunctions, negligently discarded cigarettes, and intentional acts of arson. Studies show that as many as 80% of homes lost to wildland fires could have been saved if their owners had followed simple risk-reduction practices. Wildland fire related deaths can occur because people wait too long to leave their homes.

The "My Personal Wildland Fire Action Guide" provides **READY, SET, GO** guidelines for homeowners and evacuation preparedness lists for everyone.

## READY – GET READY

- ☑ Sign up for your local emergency notification system.
- ☑ Dispose of or relocate combustible material from around your house.
- ☑ Trim trees and bushes allowing ample space between your home and landscape vegetation.
- ☑ Arrange your GO KIT with prescription medication, emergency supplies, important documents, and other essential items.

## SET – PREPARE AND BE AWARE

- ☑ Make sure you have your GO KIT on hand in an accessible place.
- ☑ Alert household and neighbors of your action plan. Ensure your household members and pets are accounted for and ready to leave.
- ☑ Monitor local fire weather conditions and listen to emergency notifications systems.

## GO! – ACT EARLY

- ☑ Get your GO KIT and leave well before the threat approaches using a planned, accessible route.
- ☑ Stay aware of the situation and follow your plan.
- ☑ Cooperate with local authorities during evacuation and re-entry processes.

Cooking is the main cause of home fires and fire injuries. Take these steps to keep everyone safe!

- **Stand by your pan:** If you leave the kitchen, turn the burner off!
- **Watch what you are cooking:** Fires start when the heat is too high. If you see any smoke or the grease starts to boil, turn the burner off.
- **Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove:** Then no one can bump them or pull them over.
- **Keep a pan lid or baking sheet nearby:** Use it to cover the pan if it catches on fire. This will put out the fire.

## General first aid for burns and scalds:

- Treat a burn right away by putting it in cool water. Cool the burn for three to five minutes.
- Cover burn with a clean, dry cloth. Do not apply creams, ointments, sprays or other home remedies.
- Remove all clothing, diapers, jewelry and metal from the burned area. These can hide underlying burns and retain heat, which can increase skin damage.



## CALLING 911

- When in doubt, call 911. Don't wait to call 911 as seconds count.
- Make sure everyone in your household knows how to call 911 and give the dispatcher the address.
- Make sure your house number can be seen from the road so emergency responders can quickly find you.

### Workplace Fire Safety

**Did you know?**  
Every year in the United States there are  
**16,500**  
office and store fires.

Employees should plan and practice multiple escape routes in case one is blocked and remove any obstacles from exits.

FEMA U.S. Fire Administration Ready.gov

Sources: US Fire Administration at [usfa.fema.gov](http://usfa.fema.gov) and [ready.gov](http://ready.gov)

Prepared by V. Lawrence – Latah CERT

Stay safe this summer!

Have fun!

Stay cool!