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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Flagler County posts three additional ‘burn ban’ signs

May 12, 2017 – Officials are taking additional measure to ensure that all are aware there is a countywide burn ban in Flagler County that will remain in effect until further notice.

“It’s a blessing that currently there are no wildfires burning in Flagler County,” Fire Rescue Chief Don Petito said. “The weather conditions – low humidity and a lack of rain – make the conditions ripe for it. We are asking our residents and visitors to be vigilant about anything flammable.”

Twelve burn ban signs have been installed in various locations with plans to install three more by the week’s end.

“We are adding signs in the area of Rima Ridge, John Anderson Highway and Old Kings Road South,” Petito said. “We want anyone and everyone who is driving in Flagler County to be reminded about the burn ban.”

Florida Forest Service conducted a 350-acre back burn in Putnam County to reduce the fuel load to keep a 25-acre wildfire from burning out of control.

“Drift smoke is likely today from this fire and the West Mims fire (in Georgia),” Petito said.

Flagler County’s FireFlight helicopter is currently working fire calls only, and not transporting patients. Additionally, the National Weather Service has issued a “Red Flag Warning” from noon to 8 p.m. because of the low level of relative humidity and fuel moisture and the predicted high temperatures.

The burn ban prohibits the following:

- The sale, use and discharge of fireworks
- Open burning, including the use of fire pits and containers
- Charcoal-burning barbecue grills – including those at Flagler County Parks and Recreation facilities
- Throwing matches or cigarettes (or other burning materials) from car windows
- Parking vehicles with catalytic converters in high grassy areas

Charles Ericksen, Jr.
District 1

Greg Hansen
District 2

David Sullivan
District 3

Nate McLaughlin
District 4

Donald O’Brien Jr.
District 5

“We are really asking everyone to take this seriously,” County Administrator Craig Coffey said. “Flicking a cigarette a car window really can start a fire, so please don’t do it. It’s a safety concern.”

The ban will remain in effect until further notice. For safety tips, go to www.flaglercounty.org/firewise.

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