



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Officials to Lift Burn Ban

Widespread rains diminish threat of wildland fires

Baton Rouge, LA – Due to a large, albeit welcomed, saturating amount of rain over the weekend that helped dampen the chances of the spread of wildland fires, the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry are lifting a statewide burn ban that took effect on October 16, 2015.

The burn ban will be officially lifted at 6:00 p.m. today.

State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning, Jr. praised the citizens of Louisiana for their patience in and compliance to a burn ban that lasted over ten days. "While our agency responded to numerous calls involving violations of the ban, with several resulting in the issuance of monetary fines, I am appreciative of the fact that the vast majority of citizens heeded the ban and became more fire safety conscious."

"Although the severe weather is causing havoc across the state, the abundance of rainfall is welcome to reduce the excessive fire danger," said Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain. "However, please be cautious and mindful of your own and your loved ones personal safety while the state deals with excessive rain and flooding."

Abnormally dry conditions in recent weeks, which hampered suppression efforts in battling a rash of wildland fires, prompted the issuance of the burn ban.

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