

# PROCLAMATION

## MISSOULA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MISSOULA, MONTANA

**WHEREAS**, wildfire smoke is a serious and growing public health threat, and the more scientists learn about the dangers of smoke exposure, the more we need to act; and

**WHEREAS**, smoke events are becoming more unpredictable, as seen with the widespread effects of the Canadian wildfires this spring; and

**WHEREAS**, wildfire smoke causes worsened asthma attacks, decreased lung function, worsened COPD symptoms, increased susceptibility to infectious disease, increased risk of heart attack and stroke, and increased hospitalizations and deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Interagency Fire Center outlook identifies significant wildfire potential throughout the western United States in 2023, including in regions that send smoke to our area; and

**WHEREAS**, our adopted Climate Ready Missoula plan finds that our summers are becoming hotter and drier, wildfire season is getting longer, wildfire smoke is an increasing risk, and we need to enact strategies to reduce harm; and

**WHEREAS**, wildfire smoke can come indoors, creating unhealthy conditions both outside and inside; and

**WHEREAS**, the Missoula City-County Health Department has resources to help residents understand and decrease exposure to the health risks associated with wildfire smoke; and

**WHEREAS**, public messaging focused on the dangers of wildfire smoke and how individuals can protect themselves plays an important role in individual preparedness during wildfire season.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, we, Missoula County and the City of Missoula, do hereby proclaim July 9 through 16, 2023, as

## WILDFIRE SMOKE READY WEEK

to inform and educate Missoula County and City residents of the hazard wildfire smoke presents and how to mitigate it.

**DATED THIS 22<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2023**

CITY OF MISSOULA

COUNTY OF MISSOULA

  
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Jordan Hess, Mayor

  
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Josh Slotnick, Chair

  
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Juanita Vero, Commissioner

  
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Dave Strohmaier Commissioner

