

**MISSOULA COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Frenchtown Fire

The Missoula County Sheriffs Office announces that all homes north of Interstate 90 from the eastern reaches of Fred Lane, westbound to Mill Creek and Spring Hill are receiving evacuation notices. The notices are currently voluntary but strongly encouraged. Residents may not receive second notification depending on the development of the fire and roadway accessibility. Several hundred homes have received notices thus far and County Deputies continue their efforts to make contact at every residence.

Residents with disabilities or immobility are encouraged to evacuate as quickly as possible. Residents that have not yet received notification in the surrounding area are asked to ready their family and animals for evacuation. Small pets evacuated from vacant homes are being transported to Animal Control on Butler Creek. Emergency staging for large livestock and horses will be at the Missoula County Fair Grounds. According to 911 reports, the fire was caused from a spark that was ignited from a lawnmower. An up-to-the-minute information line for public inquiry is available regarding evacuated areas 406-258-INFO or (258-4636).

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