



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**City of Chico**  
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### **NEW BBQ RESTRICTIONS ISSUED FOR BIDWELL PARK**

Currently, all open flame fires not in designated BBQs are prohibited throughout Bidwell Park under authority of Chico Municipal Code Section 12R.04.170. In addition, smoking is prohibited at all times in Chico Parks and Greenways (CMC 12R.04.235).

Effective immediately, all fires using wood or other materials are prohibited in existing BBQs, within Bidwell Park. Using charcoal or gas BBQs in designated BBQ facility areas will be allowed during daylight hours only. No fires will be allowed after dark. These immediate changes in the restrictions are authorized by CMC Sections 12R.02.010.

Chico Fire Department advises that charcoal fires do not produce the type of ember threat consistent with wood burning fires. This policy allowing the use of charcoal is consistent with the U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service for campfire restrictions on Federal Forest land.

The only exception to these new restrictions would be fires in the Council Ring as part of a City issued permit only and by meeting all safety requirements outlined in the permit.

In the event of Red Flag Warnings & Fire Weather Watches for our area, which is issued by the National Weather Service for critical weather conditions that could lead to dramatic increases in wildfire activity, all charcoal fires and Council Ring events will be suspended

For more information, please call the City Park Division office at 530-896-7800, email [parkinfor@chicoca.gov](mailto:parkinfor@chicoca.gov) or go to

[http://www.ci.chico.ca.us/general\\_services\\_department/park\\_division/home\\_page.asp](http://www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/home_page.asp).

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