



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Black Cove Complex Wildfire Update

Evacuation Level 2 – Yellow

Piney Gate, Fox Paw, Wilderness Cove, Green River, Sams Gap Lane, Glen Echo Cir, Lady Slipper, Maybank and Big Hungry

Evacuation Level 1 - Green

Holbert Cove, Turkey Track and Spurgeon Cove Ln

Evacuation Zone Lifted (White)

Saluda, Rixhaven, Lake Adger and White Oak Mountain

Polk County, NC – Progress is being made in containing the Black Cove Complex Fires. This is due to hard work from the North Carolina Forest Service and multiple assisting agencies, which is crucial in managing such large-scale events.

Current Wildfire Conditions

Black Cove Fire – 3,502 acres | 36% Containment | 0 Mandatory Evacuations

Deep Woods Fire – 3,970 acres | 32% Containment | 0 Mandatory Evacuations

Fish Hook Fire – 199 acres | 100% Containment | 0 Mandatory Evacuations

Polk County Evacuations

Zero mandatory evacuations remain in effect for Polk County. Preparedness zones continue to downgrade for Polk County residents. Evacuation Preparedness Zones can be found on the interactive map located at www.PolkNC.gov/FireUpdates.

Road Closures

Holbert Cove Road and Green River Cove Road are now open to residents only. Please be mindful of Emergency Personnel in the area and near the roadways.

Property Loss or Damage

Polk County Emergency Management acknowledges the challenges this situation has presented to our community. Please document any property damage with photographs for the purpose of filing insurance claims. Reach out to your insurance provider promptly and continue to follow fire safety guidelines.

Community Donations

Thank you for your generous donations. However, due to logistical constraints, we are no longer able to accept in-kind donations. If you would still like to contribute, we encourage you to make a monetary donation to the Polk County local fire departments. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Laundry & Shower Facilities

The Laundry and Shower Facilities, located at 75 Carmel Ln Columbus, NC 28722 will be closing at today at 7:00pm, as there are no longer any mandatory evacuation orders in effect.

Shelter Facilities

The Polk County Emergency Shelter, previously located at 75 Carmel Ln Columbus, NC 28722, is now officially closed, as there are no longer any mandatory evacuation orders in effect. If further sheltering is needed, please contact Polk County Administration Office at 828-894-3301.

Burn Ban

As a reminder, a burn ban is currently in effect for the state of North Carolina and Polk County. Please refrain from **any** burning activities until the ban is lifted. Individuals not abiding by the burn ban will be cited.

Black Cove Complex Fire: Evacuation Preparedness & Safety Guidelines

Polk County is encouraging the community to stay informed about the Black Cove Complex Fire by visiting www.polknc.gov/fireupdates.

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