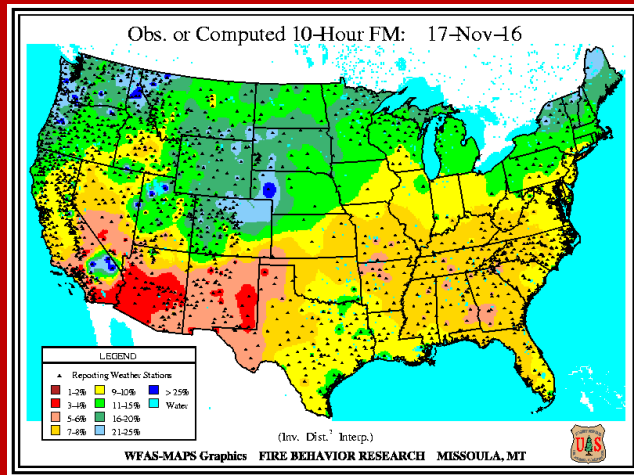
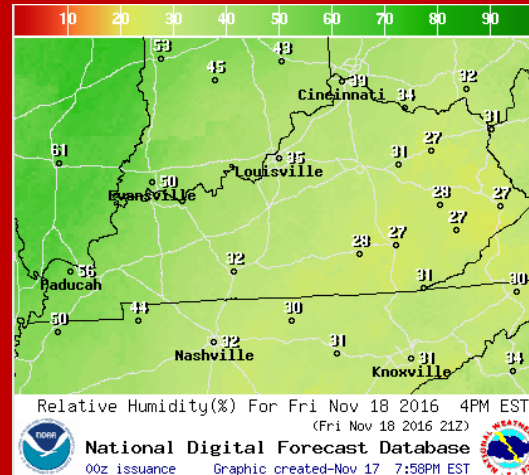


What Is a Red Flag Warning?

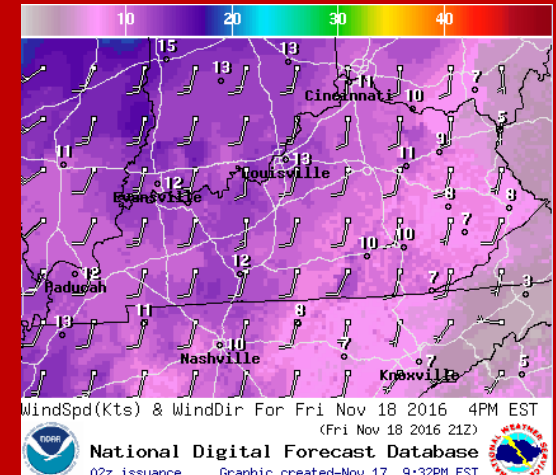
Red Flag Warnings alert fire managers on federal lands to conditions that are highly unfavorable for prescribed burns and that may lead to especially dangerous wildfire growth. To issue a Red Flag Warning, we need the following:



Ten-hour fuels of 8% or less. This parameter describes how much water is held by small vegetation such as grass, leaves, and mulch that take only about ten hours to respond to changes in dry/wet conditions.



Relative humidity (RH) less than 25% for several hours. RH depicts how much water is in the air, relative to the temperature of the air.



Winds 20 feet off the ground of at least 15 mph for several hours.

Red Flag Warnings are usually only issued during the spring and fall fire weather seasons, February 15 – April 30 and October 1 - December 15. When warnings are issued, officials know to curtail planned burns and to be on the lookout for wildfires.