

## New Red Flag Criteria for 2004

Effective this fire season, the National Weather Service in Los Angeles/Oxnard will be using new Red Flag criteria.

( The upcoming fire season typically begins in May, but is officially determined by the local fire weather customers.)

Red Flag criteria (for all areas except the Antelope Valley) requires dry fuels **and** any one of the following...

- 1) Relative Humidity 15 percent or less with either sustained winds of 25 mph or greater or frequent gusts of 35 mph or greater (for a future duration of 6 hours or more).
- 2) Relative Humidity 10 percent or less for an extended period of time (for a future duration of 10 hours or more).
- 3) Widespread and/or significant dry lightning.

Red Flag criteria (for the Antelope Valley) requires dry fuels **and** the following...

- 1) Relative Humidity 15 percent or less with either sustained winds of 25 mph or greater or frequent gusts of 35 mph or greater (for a future duration of 6 hours or more).