



JOHNSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Christopher Boedecker
County Judge

Rick Bailey
Commissioner
Precinct 1

Kenny Howell
Commissioner
Precinct 2

Mike White
Commissioner
Precinct 3

Larry Woolley
Commissioner
Precinct 4

THE STATE OF TEXAS

§

ORDER 2024-71

COUNTY OF JOHNSON

§

§

PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 352 of the Local Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, drought conditions have been determined to exist in Johnson County, Texas, and;

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Johnson County, Texas has found that circumstances present in all of the unincorporated area create a public safety hazard and would be exacerbated by outdoor burning.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that outdoor burning is prohibited for all unincorporated areas in Johnson County, Texas.

1. Actions Prohibited:

- (a) A person violates this Order if he/she burns or otherwise dispenses, emits, explodes, detonates, throws off or otherwise delivers any spark or fire to, or in the area of any combustible material, including but not limited to trash, debris, agriculture products, leaves, paper, unless such material is wholly enclosed in a receptacle adequate to contain all such flames and/or sparks.

2. Exceptions:

- (a) This Order does not apply to outdoor burn activities:
 - (1) related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for:
 - (a) firefighter training;
 - (b) public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations; or
 - (c) planting or harvesting of agriculture crops;
 - (2) that are conducted by a certified and insured prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code; or
 - (3) that are conducted by the members of a prescribed burning organization under the conditions provided by Section 153.049, Natural Resources Code, and met the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code.
- (b) This Order does not apply to the sale or detonation of fireworks.

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AUG 07 2024

April Long
County Clerk, Johnson County Texas

BY ACT DEPUTY

3. **Enforcement:**

- (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally violates a prohibition or restriction established by this Order. An offense under this Order is a Class C misdemeanor.
- (b) Upon notification of suspected outdoor burning, the fire department assigned to the location of the fire shall respond to the scene and take immediate measures to contain and/or extinguish the fire.
- (c) As soon as possible, a duly commissioned peace officer shall be sent to the scene to investigate the nature of the outdoor burning.
- (d) If, in the opinion of the peace officer at the scene and of the Fire Chief, the goal of the order can be attained by informing the person responsible for the outdoor burning about the prohibition of this Order, the peace officer may at his discretion, notify the person about the provisions of this Order and request compliance. In such instances, an entry of this notification shall be made onto the dispatcher log containing the time, date, and place of the warning, and the name of the person receiving the warning.
- (e) At the discretion of a peace officer, violations of this Order may be prosecuted in accordance with the statutes and procedures governing misdemeanors.

4. **Time Period for Prohibition of Outdoor Burning:**

- (a) This Order prohibiting outdoor burning effective Monday, August 12, 2024 at 9:00 AM and is in effect from August 12, 2024 until November 10, 2024 which does not extend beyond the 90th day after the date this Order was adopted, or until this Order is rescinded by the Commissioners Court. The Commissioners Court has also designated the County Judge the authority to make a determination that this Order may be rescinded.

WITNESS OUR HAND THIS, THE 7TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

Christopher Boedeker

Christopher Boedeker, Johnson County Judge

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Rick Bailey

Rick Bailey, Comm. Pct. 1

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Kenny Howell

Kenny Howell, Comm. Pct. 2

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Mike White

Mike White, Comm. Pct. 3

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Larry Woolley

Larry Woolley, Comm. Pct. 4

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

April Long

ATTEST: **April Long, County Clerk**

