

STATE OF TEXAS •
•
COUNTY OF FAYETTE •

EMERGENCY ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the Fayette Commissioners Court finds that high winds, extremely dry and extremely low humidity conditions exist in the County, and have already resulted in numerous fires in Counties near and in Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, the Fayette Commissioners Court finds that the danger and threat of said conditions causing destructive fires continue to exist and are expected to worsen and continue into the future; and

WHEREAS, the Fayette Commissioners Court finds that the high winds, dry, and low humidity circumstances present in the unincorporated area create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Judge of Fayette County that all outdoor burning in all the unincorporated area of Fayette County is prohibited for 90 days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier by this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code §352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for (1) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; or (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; and this Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities (4) that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and that meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code; or (5) that are prescribed burns conducted by trained persons in compliance with guidelines set forth by federal or state natural resource agencies and that are conducted in accordance with a burn plan approved by such agencies.

In accordance with Local Government Code §352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

ADOPTED AND ORDERED this 16th day of March, 2026.

Dan Mueller

Dan Mueller
Fayette County Judge

ATTEST: *Brenda Fietsam*
Brenda Fietsam, County Clerk and Clerk of
The Commissioners Court



For Immediate Release:

The Fayette County Commissioners Court met Monday, March 16. This was an emergency meeting to discuss the possibility of issuing an outdoor burn ban. A burn ban that was in effect for several months expired March 8. At a Special meeting of the Commissioners Court on March 13, the Court voted not to implement a burn ban.

Emergency Management Coordinator Angela Hahn and Fayette County Sheriff Keith Korenek reported that there were some 10 fires that got out of control on March 13th, 14th and 15th.

During the meeting on March 16, County Judge Dan Mueller stated that it was important to note that the big fire in the Warda area would have happened regardless of a burn ban. It was caused by a tree falling on an electrical line. The Court was of the opinion that the fires served as a reminder of how very dry and windy conditions are. The Court voted to implement an outdoor burning ban immediately. Judge Mueller concluded, "Hopefully we will get some much needed rain."