

**ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING**  
(Drought)

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court finds that drought conditions exist in all unincorporated area of the county:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that outdoor burning is restricted in all unincorporated area of the county for 90 days from the date of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by the Texas Forest Service or this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to local Government Code §352.081 (c) (1), and other applicable statutes. This Order restricts outdoor burning as follows:

1. **Outdoor burning banned.** Unless an exception appears below, the use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to the use of all fireworks, burning of trash, brush and open campfires and materials used outdoors in activities that could result in a fire.
2. **Exceptions.** This order does not prohibit the following outdoor activities:
  - **Barbeques and Household Trash.** This order does not prohibit outdoor barbecues and burning of household trash in a receptacle that is enclosed and covered with a mesh material with no more than ¼ inch openings and supervised in a safe area clear of debris.
  - **Controlled burns** necessary for planting and harvesting agricultural crops with a defensible space around the burn area, presence of fire suppression tools, and personal presence during the entire controlled burn.
  - **Authorized by TCEQ.** 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) firefighting training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agriculture crops; or (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resource Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resource Code.
  - **Fireworks show.** This order does not prohibit an organized aerial display of fireworks conducted by an experienced pyrotechnician for a large audience where fire suppression equipment is present to prevent the spread of fire.
  - **Attwater Prairie Chicken Refuge** maintenance activities.

In accordance with the Local Government Code §352.081(h), a violation of this order is a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00.

The purpose of this order is the mitigation of the public safety hazard posed by wildfires due to severe weather conditions by restricting use of combustible materials.

Adopted by Commissioners Court on the 14th day of August, 2017.

  
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Colorado County Judge