

People cause
and their actions
90% of all
wildfires
in Texas.



Outdoor Burning

RULES | REGULATIONS | GUIDANCE

BEFORE BURNING, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

Local Dispatch
Sheriff's Office
Local Fire Department
Texas A&M Forest Service

BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE DETAILS FOR:

Burn location
Burn duration
Estimated size
Onsite contact person
Gate code

Contact information:

Wilson County Emergency
Management Office
830-393-8573



BROUGHT TO YOU IN COOPERATION WITH



Guidance

Texas Penal Code

Predictive Services

FIRE WEATHER WATCHES

The National Weather Service will issue a "FireWeather Watch" to alert fire control officials and the public to the possible development of Red Flag conditions in a particular area or region in the near future (up to 72 hours inadvance).



BURNING OFFENSES

Arson: Chapter 28 (sec. 28.02)
Arson, criminal mischief, and other property damage or destruction - A person commits a violation if he starts a fire or causes an explosion with intent to destroy or damage any vegetation, fence or structure on open space land.



ASSESSMENT & MONITORING

TAMFS continually analyzes current and predicted weather conditions, wildfire occurrence, and availability of vegetative fuels throughout the year to maintain a continual assessment of wildfire risk at the state, regional and local level.



RED FLAG WARNINGS

Red Flag Warnings are issued when expected fuel (vegetation) and weather conditions will increase the likelihood of escaped control fires and rapid rates of spread of existing wildfires.



Reckless Damage or Destruction:

Chapter 28 (sec. 28.04) Reckless damage or destruction - A person commits a crime if he recklessly allows his fire to damage or destroy someone else's property.



BURN BANS

During periods of drought and/or high wildfire danger, a county judge or commissioner's court may enact a burn ban to protect the public and prevent human-caused wildfires.



SAFE DEBRIS BURNING

Check with your local fire department before burning.



Choose a location **away** from trees, power lines, or structures.



- Place a metal barrel on bricks, gravel or dirt.
- Cover with a metal screen with ¼ inch openings to prevent flying embers.
- Equally space three vents to create a hotter fire with less smoke.

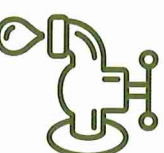


- Keep debris piles small and manageable, no wider than 4 feet.
- Maintain at least 10 feet clearing around the pile.
- Wet the area around the burn pile.



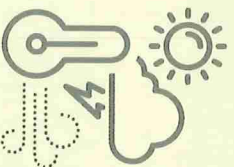
Never leave fire unattended.

Have water available.



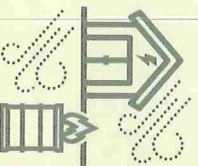
General Requirements for Burning

WEATHER



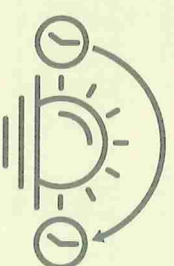
- Winds must be from six to 23 miles per hour during the burning period.
- Burning during temperature inversions or air stagnation advisories is prohibited.

- Burn only when wind direction or weather conditions will not present a hazard to any public road, landing strip, or navigable water.



DO BURN

- Downwind of any neighboring structure that contains sensitive receptors.
- Only outside the corporate limits of a city or town.



HOURS TO BURN

Begin burning no earlier than one hour after sunrise, end it the same day, and no later than one hour before sunset.

DON'T BURN



- electrical insulation
- treated lumber
- plastics
- construction materials
- heavy oils
- asphalt materials
- explosive materials
- chemical wastes
- items containing natural or synthetic rubber

For More Information:

