## **BURN BAN**

## ORDER BANNING OPEN FIRES -

## REGULATION OF OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Code, Section 352.081 (c)(1), the Commissioner Court hereby finds and declares that severe drought conditions have been determined to exist as provided by Subsection (b), in Liberty County; and such conditions create an imminent threat of destruction from wildfire; and

WHEREAS, declaration of such drought conditions authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of such fires; and

WHEREAS, circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated areas in Liberty County have exceeded the threshold associated with more severe drought conditions and the KBDI has increased daily for the preceding 30 days; and

**WHEREAS**, the current weather forecast for Liberty County does not predict rain for the next 30 days that would be sufficient to reduce the KBDI to a level below that level indicating severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Local Government Code, Section 352.082, A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly burns household refuse outdoors on a lot that is:

- (1) located in a neighborhood; or
- (2) smaller than five acres.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Texas Administrative Code, Section 111.201, No person may cause, suffer, allow, or permit any outdoor burning within the State of Texas, except as provided by this subchapter or by orders or permits of the commission.

**BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED,** that the following emergency regulations are hereby established for all unincorporated areas of Liberty County Texas, with this order being in effect not to exceed 90 days or until a determination is made under Section 352.081(e) that the drought conditions no longer exist;

- A. A person commits an offense if the person engages in burning any combustible material in violation of this of this prohibition or restriction, or orders such burning by others.
- B. An offense under this Order per Section 352.081(h) is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$500.00 and community service up to 100 hours.

**BE IT ALSO ORDERED** that this order may be enforced by any duly commissioned Peace Officer and that the venue for prosecution of a violation of this order be the Justice of the Peace in the precinct which the alleged violation occurred.

## BE IT ALSO ORDERED that;

This section does not apply to outdoor burning 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; or
- (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.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this Order is entered this the 17 of October 2025 and will be in effect until the duration of this Order OR until a determination is made by the Liberty County Commissioners Court, Liberty County Judge or Liberty County Fire Marshal that the circumstances identified no longer exist.

Jay H. Knight Liberty County Judge

Nathan Green

Liberty County Fire Marshall

ttest: Lee H. Chambers

Liberty County Clerk