

## Fire Safety Tips for County Residents

The Atascosa County Fire Marshal's Office has received many calls and questions in regards to fire safety and safe burning. Even when our area receives rain and grass appears greener, please remember to still be cautious when burning. Hopefully this information will help everyone to understand what the rules are in regards to burning and how to safely burn allowable items in Atascosa County.

Always call the Atascosa County Fire Marshal's Office at 830-769-2029 or the Atascosa County Sheriff's Office (non emergency Dispatch) at 830-769-3434 Ext.2222 before burning. Let them know who you are, what you will be burning, a phone number at which you can be contacted, and the location of the controlled burning. This prevents the fire departments from showing up unnecessarily to false calls for grass and brush fires.

You can call the Atascosa County Fire Marshal's Office 24 hours a day and listen to the answering machine for burn ban status. If you need additional information, you can call us during our office hours, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 12 noon and from 1 pm to 5 pm. Always call us for confirmation.

You may also go to the Atascosa County website : [TO BE ADDED](#)

Click on the Burn Ban link on the homepage under Links.

Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- If you do not live in Atascosa County, check the local laws on burning for your county. Some communities allow burning only during specified hours. Others forbid it entirely. It is a violation of city ordinance to burn within the incorporated city's limits of Atascosa, Texas.
- Check the weather. Do not burn on dry, windy days with low relative humidity. Check to see if weather changes are expected. Outdoor burning should be postponed if shifts in wind direction, higher winds or wind gusts are forecast.
- Postpone outdoor burning until your area greens up. Call the Atascosa County Fire Marshal's Office or Atascosa County Sheriff's Office Dispatch to determine if bans on outdoor burning have been lifted. Look for the red triangular burn ban flags at the county fire stations, or Front lawn of the Sheriff's Office. If these red flags are flying, a burn ban is in place. Also many fire stations have burn ban signs. Burn ban signs are also posted at the county line on highways coming into Atascosa County.