

ORDER OF COMMISSIONERS COURT
RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING
(Public Safety Hazard)

2020 AUG 26 PM 2:42

KIMBERLY MENKE
COUNTY CLERK

KM

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court finds that circumstances present in all of the unincorporated areas of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning:

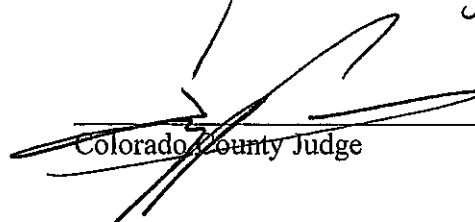
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court that outdoor burning is restricted in the unincorporated areas of the county for 90 days from the date of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by this Court or the County Judge. This Order is adopted pursuant to local Government Code §352.081(c)(2), 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:
 - **Barbecues** using above-ground grills 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 agricultural 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.
 - **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.

Approved and so ordered by Commissioners Court on this the 24th day of August, 2020.


Colorado County Judge