

J. D. Clark
County Judge

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OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE
P. O. BOX 393
101 N. Trinity St., Suite 100
Decatur, TX 76234
cojudge@co.wise.tx.us

RE: Wise County Burn Ban

On August 27, 2018, the Wise County Commissioners Court granted me the authority to modify our comprehensive burn ban to our weather-based "elevated risk" burn ban when conditions justified the change. Today, based on recommendations and information from the Wise County Office of Fire Marshal and Emergency Management, I am implementing our weather-based burn ban, which prohibits outdoor burning on days designated by the National Weather Service as Elevated Fire Danger, Critical Fire Danger, Extreme Fire Danger, or Red Flag Warning for Wise County. See the attached burn ban for more details.

This will be in effect until 5pm on Monday, September 10, so that the Wise County Commissioners Court can reevaluate conditions during our regular meeting.

As always, please exercise caution and responsibility on lawful burning days.

For more information, contact the Office of Fire Marshal and Emergency Management at (940) 627-5870.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J.D. Clark".

J.D. Clark
Wise County Judge

COUNTY BURN BAN ORDER

COUNTY OF WISE
STATE OF TEXAS

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code provides that the commissioners court of a county, by order, may prohibit outdoor burning in the unincorporated area of the county if the commissioners court makes a finding that circumstances present in the unincorporated area create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and,

WHEREAS, the Wise County Commissioners Court does hereby find that circumstances present in the unincorporated areas of Wise County create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by certain outdoor burning during periods in which the National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for Wise County and,

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED that the following emergency regulations are hereby established for portions of the unincorporated areas of Wise County, Texas not subject to public ownership or stewardship for the duration of the above mentioned declaration:

(1) Actions Prohibited:

A person violates this order if he/she ignites a spark or flame outdoors, or causes ignition of any combustible, vegetative, or metal material outdoors, or orders such burning or ignition by others, during periods in which the National Weather Service has issued an Elevated Fire Danger, Critical Fire Danger, Extreme Fire Danger, or Red Flag Warning for Wise County.

(2) Enforcement:

- (A) Under notification of suspected outdoor burning, a duly-commissioned peace officer, when available, shall be sent to the scene to investigate the nature of the fire.
- (B) In accordance with Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$500.
- (C) If the responding peace officer finds that the person responsible for the burning is in violation of (1) above, a citation shall be issued for: Violation of Burn Ban Order.
- (D) If requested by a peace officer, the fire department assigned to the location of the fire shall respond to the scene and take immediate measures to contain and to extinguish the fire.

This order shall not apply to outdoor burning activities specified in Section 352.081(f) of the Local Government Code

Be it also **ORDERED** that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the public safety hazard posed by wildfires during periods in which the National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for Wise County, by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning.

This order prohibiting outdoor burning, shall remain in effect until 5:00 PM (CST) on Monday, September 10. The Wise County Commissioners Court will reevaluate the situation that morning during Commissioners Court and consider any extensions or modifications of the burn ban.

ORDERED THIS 4th DAY OF September, 2018

WISE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT



County Judge

Commissioner, Pct 1

Commissioner, Pct. 2

Commissioner, Pct. 3

Commissioner, Pct. 4