

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF EASTLAND §

**ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING AND WELDING OPERATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court has determined that extreme drought circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning and welding operations;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court of Eastland County that all outdoor burning is banned in the unincorporated area of the county to begin July 25, 2022 for 90 days from the adoption of this Order, the same being October 24, 2022, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by the Texas Forest Service or this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code 352.081, and other applicable statutes. 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) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; or (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or, (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code. The County Judge may rescind this Order upon a determination that the circumstances that required the Order no longer exist.

Violations include the use of combustible materials, including outdoor welding; however, where welding must be performed in the field, the following mitigating efforts will be mandatory until the ban has expired:

- All areas where welding, cutting or grinding operations are being performed will be free of vegetation for at least 25 feet in all directions.
- Surface around welding area will be wetted down.
- Wind speeds must be no more than 20 miles per hour while performing welding, cutting or grinding operations outside of barriers or enclosures.
- A dedicated fire watch person will attend each welder, cutter, grinder and any activity that causes a spark.
- A minimum of one pressurized water sprayer with adequate supply for each fire watch person is required.

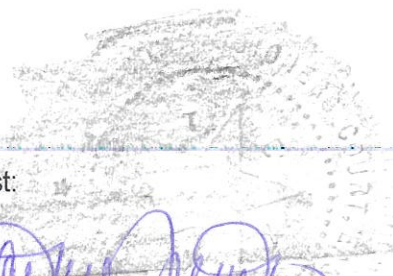

In accordance with Local Government Code 352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

ADOPTED this **JULY 25, 2022**, by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

**THIS NEW BURN BAN WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 25, 2022**

  
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County Judge, Rex Fields

Attest:

  
  
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County Clerk Cathy Jentho