



Michael C. Roach
County Judge
200 West Walker Street

RECEIVED AND FILED
FOR POSTING
At 10:00 O'Clock A.M.
AUG 09 2022
JACKIE ENSEY Co. Clerk
STEPHENS COUNTY, TEXAS
By *Jackie Ensey*
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**ORDER CONTINUING THE DECLARATION OF DISASTER
AND ORDER PROHIBITING ALL OUTDOOR BURNING**

Posted

This 9th day of August 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

WHEREAS, Stephens County has not had rainfall for an extended period of time, dry conditions; and

WHEREAS, the hot and dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous, and fast-moving wildfires; and,

WHEREAS, such fires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Government Code Chapter 418 gives the county judge the power to declare a local disaster within the county "if the threat of disaster is imminent" and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity with which such a fire could escalate to major proportions constitute an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, Declaration of such disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of fires; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential to protect lives and property by mitigating the threat of dangerous fires; and

WHEREAS, a local disaster declaration expires seven days after its issuance unless the commissioner's court consents to its renewal or continuance.

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED, that I, Michael C. Roach, County Judge of Stephens County, and the Stephens County Commissioner's Court in a duly called meeting on the 8th day of August 2022, do hereby declare a local state of disaster based on the threat of large wildfires in Stephens County, Texas.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above-cited statute, but in no instance will this Declaration continue for more than seven days without being authorized by the County Commissioners Court,

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that all outdoor burning is prohibited in Stephens County, Texas. Including those exceptions to a burn ban found in Chapter 352 of the Local Government Code.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that any activity that emits a flame or spark(s), including shredding, and that does not fall within the clear emergency burn ban guidelines stated above must have, in addition to the individual(s) performing the work, a spotter to supervise any activity to prevent a fire or its spreading. A minimum of 50 gallons of water and an adequate dispensing mechanism (pump and hose) must be in the immediate vicinity of the activity where a flame or spark(s) are emitted.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that any individual who will be conducting any



The COUNTY OF STEPHENS
STEPHENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Breckenridge, Texas 76424

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activity that emits a flame or spark(s) and that does not fall within the clear emergency burn ban guidelines stated above must provide the address or activity location to the Breckenridge Fire Department at 254.559.6242.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, whose purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

ENFORCEMENT ACTION: Violation of this order may result in criminal prosecution.

This Declaration shall be promptly publicized and filed with the County Clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my signature this 9th day of August 2022 at 10:00 A.M. This order will modify and extend for 30 days, the current order on the date of its expiration. This order, dated 8.9.22, will expire unless extended by the Stephens County Commissioner's Court or until the conditions that necessitated this order have been mitigated by rainfall that lowers the KBDI index below 575 for a period of 7 days or more.

Michael C. Roach
Stephens County Judge

