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POSTED
 OCT 12 2025
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 BY: Chelsea Clark
 SANDRA K. DUCKWORTH, COUNTY CLERK

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING FOR NEWTON COUNTY

WHEREAS Newton County is currently threatened by high or extreme wildland fire hazard. This threat is caused by abundant fuel and extreme dry conditions mixed with high winds across the State and in Newton County, and;

WHEREAS extraordinary measures must be taken to protect life and/or property;

1. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Government Code, this order prohibiting outdoor burning shall continue until October 19, 2025, unless extended by the Newton County Commissioner's Court and then for so long as such conditions exist with the exception granted to fireworks under Section 108.108 (i) of the Government Code.
2. The purpose of this order is that mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

Be it therefore ordered that the following emergency regulations are hereby established for all unincorporated areas of Newton County, Texas in accordance with Section 418.108 (h) (1) of the Government Code.

1. Action Prohibited:
 - (a) A person violates this Order if they burn any combustible material outside or orders such burning.
 - (b) A person violates this Order if they engage in any activity outdoors, which could allow flames or sparks that could result in a fire or orders such activities by others.
2. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
3. In accordance with Local Government Code Section 352.081(h), a violation of this order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

BE IT ALSO ORDERED that this order may be enforced by any duly-commissioned peace officer and that the venue for prosecution of this order will be Justice of the Peace Court, Newton County, Texas

This Declaration and Order shall take effect immediately from and after it's issuance and continue **UNTIL October 19, 2025**, unless extended by the Newton County Commissioner's Court.

DECLARATION AND ORDERED THIS 12th day of October 2025.

Ronald J. Cochran

RONALD J. COCHRAN, NEWTON COUNTY JUDGE

Attest:

Sandra K. Duckworth by Chelsea Clark, Deputy

Sandra K. Duckworth, Newton County Clerk