State of Texas §
§
County of Galveston §

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING IN ALL UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS (OUTDOOR BURN BAN)

On this, the **17th day of August, 2026,** the Commissioners Court of Galveston County, Texas convened in a **Special Meeting**:

Whereas, pursuant to Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court by order may prohibit or restrict outdoor burning in all or part of the unincorporated area of Galveston County, Texas;

Whereas, in accordance with Section 352.08l(c)(l) of the Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court is authorized to prohibit or restrict outdoor burning if the Texas Forest Service has determined that drought conditions exist in Galveston County;

Whereas, the Texas Forest Service has determined that drought conditions exist in Galveston County as evidenced by the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) score of 510;

Whereas, in accordance with Section 352.08l(d) of the Local Government Code, this Order may not extend beyond the 90th day after the date of its' adoption, provided however that the Commissioners Court may adopt a subsequent order that takes effect upon the expiration of this Order; and

Whereas, in accordance with Section 352.08l(e)(l) of the Local Government Code, this Order may be lifted prior to ninety (90) days if a determination is made by the Texas Forest Service that drought conditions no longer exist in Galveston County.

Now, Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED, by the Commissioners Court of Galveston County, Texas, that:

l.) In accordance with the authority of Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code, outdoor burning in **all unincorporated areas** of Galveston County, is hereby **PROHIBITED;** as such, this Order **PROHIBITING** outdoor burning applies in any unincorporated area of Galveston County, Texas;

2.) This Order shall take effect immediately on and from its issuance, and shall remain in effect continuously thereafter for a period of ninety (90) days after this date of adoption, which such date of adoption is **November 15th, 2026**, unless lifted earlier by subsequent order;

3.) In accordance with Section 352.081(t) of the Local Government Code, this Order shall not apply to outdoor burning activities:

a.) related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for: firefighter training; public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations; or planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or

b.) that are conducted by a certified and insured prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code; or

c.) that are conducted by the members of a prescribed burning organization under the conditions provided by Section 153.049, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code;

4.) In accordance with Section 352.081(h) of the Local Government Code and Section 12.23 of the Penal Code, a person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally violates this Order; an offense under this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed $500.00; and

5.) The County Judge of Galveston County, Texas is authorized to execute this Order on behalf of the Commissioners Court of Galveston County, Texas.

Be it FURTHER ORDERED, that the County Clerk is **ORDERED** to transmit forthwith a copy of this Order to the Sheriff, Constables, and Criminal District Attorney of Galveston County for enforcement purposes.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded, the above Order is hereby **ADOPTED,** on this, the **17th day of August, 2026.**

COUNTY OF GALVESTON, TEXAS,
By:

Mark Henry, County Judge

ATTEST:

Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk