

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF WICHITA §

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court finds that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county creates a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court of Wichita County that all outdoor burning is prohibited in the unincorporated area of the county for ninety (90) days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by the Commissioners Court that the circumstances that required the Order no longer exist.

This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code §352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities:

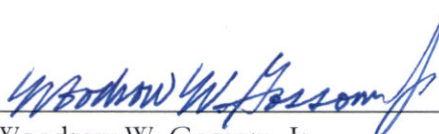
A) related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for:

- (1) firefighter training;
- (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations;
- (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or,
- (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Natural Resources Code §153.048 and meet the standards of Natural Resources Code §153.047.

B) Commercial or professional welding operations that are authorized by the attached *Burning Guidelines During Emergency*.

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 27th day of June, 2022 by a unanimous vote.



Woodrow W. Gossom, Jr.
COUNTY JUDGE

Attest:


Lori Bohannon, COUNTY CLERK

BURNING GUIDELINES DURING EMERGENCY

1. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited.
2. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to, restricted fireworks, discarded cigarettes or other flammable materials used in activities such as welding and any other activity that could result in a wildfire.
3. Welding is allowed by commercial/professional welders under the following guidelines ONLY:
 - a. A spotter is required for each welder, each cutter, each grinder, and for any activity that causes or may cause a spark.
 - b. A diameter around the welding area shall be a minimum of 25 feet and clear of vegetation, if possible, and kept wet. The welding perimeter must be three times the height of the actual welding. Example: if the welding is occurring ten feet off the ground, a perimeter of thirty (30) feet must be protected.
 - c. A minimum of 10 gallons of water must be available on site.
 - d. A minimum of one (1) water pressure fire extinguisher per spotter is required and one spare. Each extinguisher should be at least 2½ gallons.
 - e. Each welding rig must have a Class B Chemical Fire Extinguisher, minimum 10lbs.
 - f. If the work area cannot be cleared of vegetation, proper precautionary measures must be taken. (Example: protecting brush, etc., by utilizing fire resistant tarps).
 - g. Welding in an enclosed area is acceptable.
 - h. No welding is permitted if winds are 20 mph or greater.
 - i. Prior to ANY welding activity a phone call shall be placed by the welder or company conducting welding operations to the Wichita County Sheriff's Department (940-766-8170) relaying the location of the project, cell phone number for contact person, name of responsible party and name of welder.

Persons violating this order may be arrested and fined up to \$500.