



**AN ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING IN
UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY**

STATE OF TEXAS

§

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

§

OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, there exists a present danger that fires being used to burn debris may not be adequately controlled and spread and ultimately result in extensive damage and losses; and,

WHEREAS, fire departments and emergency responders are not adequately staffed and equipped to respond to fires that are not controlled adequately; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. 352.081 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Commissioners' Court, by court order, may prohibit or restrict outdoor burning in all and/or part of the unincorporated areas of the county if the Commissioners' Court makes a finding that circumstances are present in all of the unincorporated areas of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and,

WHEREAS, an order issued under this section shall not apply to outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by Texas Parks and Wildlife for prescribed burns to enhance wetland habitat conditions and control fuel loads; the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for: firefighter training, public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations, or harvesting agricultural crops; and,

WHEREAS, a person commits a Class C misdemeanor if the person knowingly or intentionally violates prohibition or restriction established by an order stopped under Sec. 352.081; and,

WHEREAS, The County Judge of Jefferson County does hereby enter an Order prohibiting outdoor burning on February 26, 2026 and it is Ordered that any agency who intends to order prescribed burns shall first notify all local fire departments and the Emergency Management Office of Jefferson County of the planned burning..

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that outdoor burning is prohibited in all unincorporated areas of Jefferson County, except for said exemptions stipulated above for a period of 90 days effective at 11:59 a.m. on February 26 2026, unless terminated earlier or extended Court based upon a determination that the public safety hazard no longer exists or remains by the County Judge and/or Commissioners Court. This Order is to be effective at 11:59 a.m. February 26, 2026.

Signed this 26 of February, 2026.



JUDGE JEFF R. BRANICK

COUNTY JUDGE