

TITUS COUNTY

TITUS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

KENT COOPER
COUNTY JUDGE

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FEB 25 2026 KH



Titus County Clerk

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING FOR THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TITUS COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code provides that the County Judge of a county, by order, may prohibit outdoor burning in the unincorporated area of the county if the County Judge makes a finding that circumstances present in the unincorporated area create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning.

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Titus County, Texas, under advisement of the Texas Forestry Service, does hereby find that circumstances present in the unincorporated area of Titus County create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED that the following emergency regulations are hereby established for all unincorporated areas of Titus County, Texas:

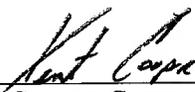
- 1) Actions Prohibited:
 - a. A person violates this order if he or she:
 - i. Knowingly or intentionally engages in any outdoor activities which produce flames or sparks that could result in a fire or orders such activities by others.
 - ii. Knowingly or recklessly discards lighted or burning materials.
 - iii. This order does not limit the authority granted under other state statutory regulations including reckless damage of property. Damage to property resulting from reckless conduct of burning or discharge of fireworks could result in further violations of Texas statutes.
- 2) Enforcement:
 - a. A violation of this order is a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.
 - b. This order may be enforced by any duly commissioned peace officer.
- 3) This Emergency Order is effective and enforceable for seven (7) days after the date of adoption which is indicated below.
- 4) The Order does not apply to outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for:
 - a. Firefighter training; or,
 - b. Public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations; or,
 - c. Planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or,
 - d. Burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under § 153.048, *Texas Natural Resources Code* and meet the standards of §153.047, *Texas Natural Resources Code*; or,
 - e. Burns that are conducted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), under training and guidelines of the National Wildlife Coordinating Group (NWCG).
- 5) This Order does not apply to the following outdoor activities:
 - a. Welding, Cutting, or Grinding Operations: This order shall not apply to the outdoor burning of vegetative material caused by welding, cutting, or grinding operations if such burning is not malicious or intentional and the following provisions are followed:

- i. Wind speeds must be no more than 20 miles per hour while performing welding, cutting, or grinding operations outside of approved barriers or enclosures.
 - ii. Each site in which the welding, cutting, or grinding operations are taking place must have the ability to call 911 for emergency response.
 - iii. A dedicated fire watch person must attend each welder, cutter, or grinder or any activity that causes a spark.
 - iv. A minimum of one (1) water pressure fire extinguisher or pressurized water source is required to be on-hand per fire watch person.
 - v. If an emergency exists where welding must be performed outside these provisions, the County Fire Marshal may issue a temporary exception to the Order, along with any requirements necessary to reduce the hazards associated with such activities.
- b. Outdoor Cooking: This order shall not prohibit outdoor cooking activities when the following provisions are followed:
- i. All outdoor cooking must be attended to at all times by a responsible party.
 - ii. The responsible party must have the ability to call 911 for emergency response.
 - iii. A minimum of one (1) water pressure fire extinguisher or pressurized water source is required to be on-hand at all times.

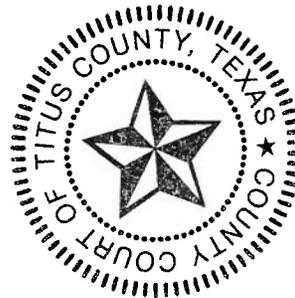
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this emergency order prohibiting outdoor burning be in effect for seven (7) days from the date of issuance of this Order. This order may be rescinded by the County Judge of Titus County, Texas, prior to the end of the seven (7) day period if the County Judge and County Commissioners' Court determines that the circumstances that required the Order no longer exist. This order may be ratified, renewed, extended, or allowed to expire on or before the 7th day from the issuance of this Order, as determined by the Commissioners' Court of Titus County, Texas.

BE IT ALSO ORDERED that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the public safety hazard posed by wildfires during the current dry weather period, by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning without specific approval of the Commissioners' Court, or without appropriate licensing from the State of Texas regulatory agency.

ORDERED, this 25th day of February, 2026



Kent Cooper, County Judge



ATTEST:



County Clerk