

Cotton County Board of County Commissioners
County-Wide Burn Ban
Emergency Resolution

WHEREAS, the climate of the State of Oklahoma and Cotton County is conducive to the development of dry and hazardous burning conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that actions be taken to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Cotton County; and

WHEREAS, it is important to conserve the resources of the county and its municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Cotton County Emergency Management Director and a majority of Cotton County Fire Chiefs have determined that hazardous burning conditions do exist in the county; and

WHEREAS, enforcement of this resolution may be carried out by any law enforcement officer of this State and any person convicted of violating this resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), to imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

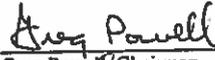
THEREFORE, The Cotton County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the authority granted by section 16-26.B of Title 2 of the Oklahoma Statutes, do hereby proclaim a burn ban and that extreme fire danger exists in Cotton County . This situation (as defined in Section 16-26.b.1.a-d, Title 2, O.S.) has been verified by the Cotton County Emergency Management Director and a majority of the Cotton County fire chiefs or their designees.

By virtue of this resolution, it is unlawful for any person to set fire to any forest, grass, range, crop or other wildlands, or to build a campfire or bonfire, or to burn trash or other material that may cause a forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildland fire.

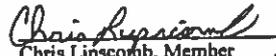
This resolution shall be effective immediately for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of passage by the Board of County Commissioners. If extreme fire danger conditions persist, subsequent resolution may be passed. This Burn Ban may be removed at any time during the seven day period by the same method by which it was approved.

WHEREAS, exceptions to this fire prohibition and appropriate precautionary measures to be taken as pre attached.

Adopted at an open meeting by the Board of Cotton County Commissioners this 10th day of March, 2014. This order is effective from March 10, 2014 – April 1, 2014.


Greg Powell, Chairman


Edward Eschiti, Member


Chris Lipscomb, Member


Nikki Vardell, County Clerk



EXCEPTIONS TO COTTON COUNTY BURN BAN

For equipment related to road construction projects:

Equipment which uses propane or other controlled-type burners is generally regarded as safe, however it would be prudent to have a water pumper on standby anytime this equipment is used near a grassy right of way.

Welding/cutting torch/grinding activities:

When conducted over a non-combustible surface at least 10 feet by 10 feet and when welding blankets or screens are used to cover flammable vegetation; and

2. Wind speeds must be less than 20 mph; and
3. A fire watcher, other than the welder, is posted at the welding/cutting torch site with a pressurized water or fire extinguisher.

Campfires and outdoor cooking

Outdoor campfires or bonfires are prohibited. LPG and natural gas grills and charcoal-fired cooking outside in a grilling receptacle are permitted provided that the activity is conducted over a non-flammable surface and at least five feet from flammable vegetation.

Prescribed burns on federal lands

Are exempt when conducted under the federal prescribed burn rule and regulations.

Faxed to:

A. **George L. Geisler, State Forester**
Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry-Forestry Services
2800 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Fax: 405-522-4583 Phone: 405-522-6158

B. **Michael C. Thompson**
Department of Public Safety
P.O. Box 11415
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73136
Fax: 405-419-2050 Phone: 405-425-2424

C. **Kristina Marek, Director of State Parks**
Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department
P.O. Box 52002
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-2002
Fax: 405-230-8676 Phone: 405-230-8476

D. **Alan Peoples, Chief of Wildlife Division**
Department of Wildlife Conservation
P.O. Box 53465
Oklahoma City, OK 73152
Fax: 405-521-4706 Phone: 405-521-2739

E. **Kent Simpson, Cotton County Sheriff (580) 875-3888**

F. **Mike Carter, Walters Police Department (580) 875-3755**

G. **City Hall, City of Walters (580) 875-2289**

H. **City Hall, Town of Temple (580) 342-5509**

I. **Posted at the Cotton County Courthouse, 301 North Broadway, Walters, OK 73572**