






# JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Jackson County Issues Burn Ban Due to Elevated Wildfire Risk

*Jackson County, FL* — At its regular meeting on April 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., the **Jackson County Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution prohibiting outdoor burning throughout Jackson County and its municipalities.** This action was taken following recommendations from the Florida Forest Service and Jackson County Fire Rescue due to current dry conditions that significantly increase the risk of wildfires.

The Board determined that existing environmental conditions present a public safety hazard that could be worsened by outdoor burning. As a result, all outdoor burning activities are prohibited unless specifically authorized.

Under the order, it is unlawful to burn any combustible material outdoors or engage in activities that may produce flames or sparks, including the use of fireworks or similar items. The ban applies to common activities such as yard debris burning, bonfires, campfires, warming fires, and the use of outdoor fireplaces or chimneys. Cooking is only permitted using contained gas or charcoal grills. Any unauthorized burning of grass, brush, or forested land is considered a violation of the law.

Exceptions to the burn ban include firefighter training exercises and burn operations that have been approved by the Florida Forest Service.

Jackson County Fire Rescue and local fire departments will respond to reports of outdoor burning and take immediate action to extinguish fires when necessary. Law enforcement agencies, including the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and municipal police departments, will assist with enforcement and ensure compliance with the order.

The burn ban will remain in effect until conditions improve and it is deemed safe to lift the order. The Board will continue to monitor conditions in coordination with Jackson County Fire Rescue and the Florida Forest Service.

Residents are encouraged to stay informed by following official Jackson County communication channels for updates.

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**District 1** Dr. Willie Spires     **District 2** Edward Crutchfield     **District 3** Paul Donofro Jr.     **District 4** Donnie Branch     **District 5** Jamey Westbrook