



# City of Wimberley

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
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The Hays County Commissioners Court has authorized restrictions on outdoor burning for the next 90 days, citing dry and windy conditions throughout the county. Under the ban, residents in the unincorporated areas of Hays County are prohibited from outdoor burning except when authorized by the Fire Marshal.

The order issued by Commissioners Court does allow for the burning of household trash or domestic waste materials if a burn barrel with a metal wire mesh screen is used to prevent the spread of sparks and flames. Other exceptions include firefighting training, public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; harvesting of agricultural crops and burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager.

The wet spring and summer produced abundant amounts of vegetation that is now, in many cases, tall and dry, providing excellent fuel for wild land fires. As of Tuesday, the average Keetch-Byram Drought Index for Hays County was 532. The index ranges from 0 to 800, with the highest end representing the driest soil and air conditions.

Residents can help cut down the risk of grass fires by making sure vegetation is cut back and periodically watered. Violators of the ban could face a class C misdemeanor charge with a fine up to \$500.

The burn ban comes as the area enters a period of the year when fireworks are popular. Keep in mind that it is illegal to sell, possess or discharge fireworks within the city limits of the City of Wimberley.