

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE**

**DECLARATION OF A
LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**

FIRE BAN

The following declaration is issued by Board of Commissioners of Buncombe County:

WHEREAS, due to increased fire risk, the N.C. Forest Service has issued a ban on all open burning and has canceled all burning permits in fourteen (14) Western North Carolina counties effective 5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 5, until further notice.

WHEREAS, the ban prohibits all open burning in the affected counties, regardless of whether a permit was previously issued.

WHEREAS, in the judgment of Buncombe County Emergency Services personnel the same conditions exist in Buncombe County, and the Buncombe County Fire Marshal's Office, in accordance with North Carolina State Building Code: Fire Prevention Code 307.1, and the Buncombe County Fire Prevention Ordinance, has issued a ban on open burning for all of Buncombe County due to adverse atmospheric conditions. These conditions include high fire danger, low humidity, and strong gusty winds.

WHEREAS, the implementation of a local state of emergency will activate Emergency Management plans and allow sufficient personnel to be mobilized and positioned in order to:

- a) Reduce the vulnerability of the people of Buncombe County to damage, injury, and loss of life and property;
- b) Prepare for prompt and efficient rescue, care, and treatment of threatened or affected persons; and

c) Provide for cooperation and coordination of activities relating to emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery among agencies and officials of Buncombe County and with similar agencies and officials of other counties, with state and federal governments, with interstate organizations, and with other private and quasi-official organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the above described facts and circumstances, pursuant to the authority contained in Ch. 21, Buncombe County Code of Ordinances and Article 1A of the N.C.G.S. Chapter 166A, the Board of Commissioners, do hereby declare and order a ban on all open burning in Buncombe County.

By and with the consent of the mayors of the municipalities within Buncombe County this Declaration of Local State of Emergency applies within the municipal limits of the City of Asheville, the Town of Weaverville, the Town of Woodfin, the Town of Black Mountain, the Town of Montreat, and the Town of Biltmore Forest.

It is further declared that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by Buncombe County and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements are in effect and shall remain in effect until this Declaration expires or is rescinded. All emergency management personnel are hereby ordered to cooperate in the implementations of the provisions of the County's Emergency Management Plan and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements, and to furnish assistance thereunder.

We direct that copies of this Declaration be disseminated to the mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of this Declaration be posted at the County Courthouse and other public buildings as appropriate.

This declaration shall apply to Buncombe County as described above and be effective beginning at 12:00 Noon on Monday, November 6, 2023 and shall remain in effect until conditions improve and the ban is canceled.

Adopted this the 6th day of November, 2023.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

Lamar Joyner, Clerk

By: _____
Brownie Newman, Chairman