

County of Nueces



MIKE PUSLEY
Commissioner
Precinct 1

JOHN MAREZ
Commissioner
Precinct 3

JOE A. GONZALEZ
Commissioner
Precinct 2

CONNIE SCOTT
County Judge
Nueces County Courthouse, Room 303
901 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-3697

BRENT CHESNEY
Commissioner
Precinct 4

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING - EXTENDED 30 DAYS

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court has determined that current circumstances persist in unincorporated areas of the county, posing a public safety hazard that would be worsened by outdoor burning.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court of Nueces County that all outdoor burning and beach bonfires in the unincorporated areas of the County (*outside of city limits*) continue to be prohibited through **April 28, 2026**, unless the County Judge decides to lift the Order sooner due to improved conditions.

This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code §352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for (1) firefighting training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Natural Resources Code §153.047.

Household trash burning is permitted only in cases where trash pickup services are unavailable. In such cases, individuals may burn household trash in an enclosed container, such as a metal barrel, equipped with a spark and flame-arresting screen. Non-commercial cooking activities, such as backyard cookouts and barbecues, are still permitted. Outdoor welding and other "hot work" activities must adhere to fire code regulations.

In accordance with Local Government Code §352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$500.00.

DULY ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH 2026.



CONNIE SCOTT
County Judge

ATTEST:

KARA A. SANDS, County Clerk



CONNIE SCOTT
NUECES COUNTY JUDGE

March 25, 2026

Effective immediately, the Nueces County Burn Ban Order for areas outside city limits has been extended for 30 days, through **April 28, 2026**. This includes homes, yards, and beaches in these areas. The ban may be lifted sooner by the County Judge if conditions improve.

What is and isn't allowed:

- No outdoor burning is allowed, including beach bonfires.
- Household trash burning is allowed only if trash pickup is unavailable, and must be done in a metal container with a spark- and flame-arresting screen.
- Backyard cookouts and barbecues are still allowed.
- Outdoor welding and other hot work must follow fire safety rules.

Exceptions for safety and essential work:

Burns needed for public health or safety are allowed if authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, such as:

1. Firefighting training
2. Utility, pipeline, or mining work
3. Planting or harvesting crops
4. Prescribed burns by a certified burn manager

Penalties:

Intentionally violating this order is a **Class C misdemeanor**, with fines up to **\$500**.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Connie Scott".

Judge Connie Scott
Nueces County, Texas