



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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WACO-MCLENNAN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ISSUES COUNTY-WIDE BURN BAN

WACO, TEXAS (August 7, 2024) — In response to ongoing extreme heat and insufficient rainfall, Waco-McLennan County Emergency Management has issued a county-wide burn ban effective immediately. This ban is a precautionary measure to protect the community from the increased risk of wildfire.

Under this burn ban, all open burning is prohibited throughout McLennan County, including within the city limits of Waco. Open burning activities such as burning leaves, brush, or other materials are strictly prohibited.

Residents are reminded that violating this burn ban will result in a fine. The fine amount varies based on the severity of the violation and any resulting damages. We urge all residents to adhere strictly to this burn ban and to exercise caution to help prevent any accidental fires.

Safety Tips During Extreme Heat:

- **Stay Hydrated:** Drink plenty of water throughout the day, even if you don't feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, as they can dehydrate you.
- **Stay Cool:** Limit outdoor activities during peak heat hours, typically between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. When possible, stay indoors in an air-conditioned environment. Use fans and cool compresses to help lower your body temperature.
- **Wear Appropriate Clothing:** Light-colored, loose-fitting clothing helps keep your body cool. Avoid dark colors that absorb heat.
- **Check on Others:** Make sure to check on family members, friends, and neighbors, especially the elderly and those with health conditions, to ensure they are coping well with the heat.
- **Recognize Heat-Related Illnesses:** Be aware of the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, which can include heavy sweating, weakness, dizziness, nausea, and confusion. If you or someone you know shows symptoms, move to a cooler place and seek medical attention immediately.

The Waco Fire Department exists to serve.

City of Waco

The City of Waco is committed to the safety of all residents. With these extreme heat conditions in effect, it's crucial to take precautions to protect your health and well-being. For further information or to report violations, please contact the Waco Fire Marshal's Office at (254) 750-1740.

For up-to-date notifications, visit:

- Waco Fire Department Twitter: twitter.com/WacoTXFire
- City of Waco Facebook: facebook.com/cityofwacotx
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