

**DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND ORDER PROHIBITING THE
SALE OR USE OF FIREWORKS IN
EASTLAND COUNTY TEXAS**

Posted

This 27th day of June, 2022 at 1:15 P.M.

WHEREAS, Eastland County has not had rainfall for an extended period of time, with extreme dry conditions; and

WHEREAS, the hot and dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous and fast-moving wildfires; and,

WHEREAS, such fires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Government Code Chapter 418 gives the County Judge the power to declare a local disaster within the county "if the threat of disaster is imminent" and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity with which such a fire could escalate to major proportions constitute an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, declaration of such disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of fires; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat of dangerous fires; and

WHEREAS, a declaration issued under Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code may include a prohibition or restriction on the sale or use of all fireworks within the county; and

WHEREAS, a local disaster declaration expires seven days after its issuance, unless the commissioners court consents to its renewal or continuance; and

WHEREAS, to the extent that a declaration includes a provision related to fireworks, any portion of the provision that exceeds the restrictions authorized by Texas Local Government Code § 352.051 is effective only for 60 hours, unless the County Judge requests and the Governor authorizes an extension of the broader fireworks restriction.

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED, that I, Rex Fields, County Judge of Eastland County, do hereby declare a local state of disaster based on the threat of large wildfires in Eastland County, Texas.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above cited statute, and as the declaration pertains to fireworks, no more than 60 hours unless an extension of the restriction on fireworks has been received from the Governor of the State of Texas. A request for such extension has been sent to the Governors Office and to the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that the sale and use of all fireworks is prohibited anywhere in Eastland County, Texas for the duration of this Declaration.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, and the sale and use of all fireworks, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

This declaration shall be promptly publicized and filed with the County Clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my signature this 27th day of June, 2022 at 1:15 P.M.



Judge Rex Fields
Eastland County, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Eastland County on June 27, 2022

Attest:


Cathy Jentho, County Clerk