

containing the date, time and place of the warning, along with the name of the party receiving the warning, shall be forwarded to the office of County Judge.

- (4) In accordance with Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$500.

(C) This order does not apply to outdoor burning activities:

- (1) related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for:

- (a) firefighter training;
- (b) public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations; or
- (c) planting or harvesting of agriculture crops.

- (2) that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code.

- (3) that involve the performance of outdoor combustible operations, including but not limited to, outdoor welding, cutting or grinding operations and outdoor hot works operations, by any person if the operations are performed in compliance with the following requirements creating a controlled environment and safeguards on each day when operations are performed:

(a) Areas where welding, cutting or grinding operations or hot works operations are being performed are free of vegetation for at least twenty-five feet in all directions;

(b) Surfaces around welding or hot works area are wetted down;

(c) Each location where welding, cutting or grinding operations or hot works operations are being performed must have cellular telephone communications for emergency response;

(d) Before beginning any operations, the person performing the welding, cutting or grinding operations or hot works operations must notify the local fire department or Emergency Services District which serves the location where the welding, cutting or grinding operations or hot works operations are planned;

(e) A dedicated fire watch person attends each welder, cutter, grinder, or worker performing hot works operations or any activity that causes a spark;

(f) At least one (1) water pressure fire extinguisher per fire watch person is located within 10 feet of the location where welding, cutting or grinding operations or hot works operations are being performed;

(g) No welding, cutting or grinding operations or hot works operations is allowed on days designated as red flag warning days by the National Weather Service;

(h) If all welding, cutting and grinding operations or hot works operations are performed only in a total welding or hot works enclosure, or “welding box” or “hot works box”, that is sufficiently high to control sparks, including a fire retardant cover over the top, the operations must comply with requirements (e), (f), and (g) in this list and is encouraged to comply with requirements (a)-(d) inclusive, if feasible and appropriate, and;

(i) If all welding, cutting and grinding operations or hot works operations are performed only in sub-surface, or “bell hole”, welding and grinding operations or hot works operations within approved excavations, the operations must comply with requirements (e), (f), and (g) in this list and is encouraged to comply with requirements (a)-(d) inclusive, if feasible and appropriate.

Be it also ORDERED that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the public safety hazard posed by wild fires during the current dry weather by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

This order shall expire on the **22nd day of October, 2018**, or prior to such expiration date if the Williamson County Commissioners Court or the County Judge, if designated by the Commissioners Court, determines that the circumstances present in the unincorporated areas of Williamson County no longer create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning, whichever occurs earlier. The Williamson County Commissioners Court may adopt an additional order that takes effect on the expiration of this order if the Williamson County Commissioners Court finds at such time that circumstances then present in all of the unincorporated area of Williamson County continue to create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning.

ORDERED THIS 24th DAY OF July, 2018.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

By: _____
Dan A. Gattis, County Judge