



McDonald County Commission

Bryan Hall, Presiding Commissioner

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Jamey Cope
Eastern Commissioner

Rick Lett
Western Commissioner

August 27, 2026

Order

The McDonald County Commission hereby implements a temporary County-wide Open Burn Ban for all unincorporated areas of McDonald County, Missouri, and for all incorporated areas of McDonald County, Missouri, that have no municipal ordinance for an open burn ban.

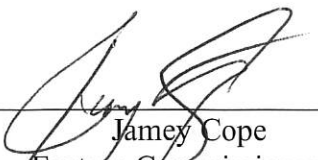
This order is imposed under the McDonald County Ordinance for the Creation of a Temporary Open Burn Ban, Ordinance Number 2026-03.

The conditions that warrant this temporary open burning ban is: Severely dry conditions and Severe Drought Level.

This Order is effective starting August 27, 2026, immediately after the Drought Level changes to Severe.

This Order shall be in effect for a period of thirty days from its effective date.

It is so ordered.



Jamey Cope
Eastern Commissioner



Bryan Hall
Presiding Commissioner



Rick Lett
Western Commissioner

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PROCEDURES TO ENACT
A COUNTY-WIDE BURN BAN PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF
STATE LAW AND SECTION 49.266 RSMO
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF McDONALD COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the County Commission of McDonald County, Missouri, is authorized to enact ordinances to promote and enhance the public health, safety, and general welfare of individuals within McDonald County, Missouri; and

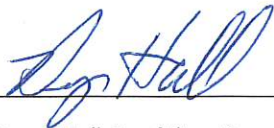
WHEREAS, Section 49.266 RSMO authorizes the enactment of a County-wide ban of open fires pursuant to the provisions of that Statute;

1. It shall be unlawful to knowingly start, initiate, cause, permit, or conduct a fire on property located in McDonald County, Missouri, excluding outdoor grills utilized for cooking purposes. Violation of this Ordinance shall be a class A misdemeanor as defined by State Law.
2. Each violation of an open burning ban imposed under this Ordinance shall be considered a separate offense for each day or part of the day in which the violation is committed.
3. The McDonald County Commission may enact a County-wide burn ban upon a determination by the State Fire Marshal that a burn ban order is appropriate for McDonald County pursuant to the provisions of Section 49.266.3 RSMO.
4. State agencies responsible for fire management or fire suppression activities and persons conducting agriculture burning using best management practices as defined by the Missouri Department of Conservation, shall not be subject to the provisions of this Ordinance.
5. This Ordinance shall not affect the ability of an individual, organization, or corporation to sell fireworks during the period of a burn ban but it does prohibit the usage of all missile and skyrocket devices.
6. Each Order imposed under this Ordinance shall state the conditions which warrant such county-wide burn ban and notice shall be provided to the general public of the enactment of the burn ban.
7. Prior to enacting a County-wide burn ban, the Commission must receive information of the condition precedent established in Section 49.266.3 RSMO.
8. Any burn ban imposed under this Ordinance shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. However, the McDonald County Commission may extend or rescind the ban if necessary.
9. This Ordinance and any burn ban when enacted shall be applicable to all unincorporated areas of McDonald County, Missouri, and all incorporated areas within McDonald County that do not have a municipal ordinance banning open burning.

10. Burn ban violators will be subject to a minimum fine of \$250.00 up to the maximum allowed by a Class A misdemeanor. Additionally, restitution for services provided will be awarded to the responding fire department(s).
11. Enforcement of this Ordinance shall be the responsibility of McDonald County Emergency Management Director and McDonald County Law Enforcement with jurisdiction.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and in effect from and after its passage and adoption. Should any provision within the Ordinance be adjudged invalid, said determination shall not affect the validity of the balance of this Ordinance.

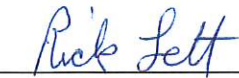
THIS ORDINANCE WAS PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THE 27th DAY OF AUGUST 2026.



Bryan Hall, Presiding Commissioner



Jamey Cope, Eastern Commissioner



Rick Lett, Western Commissioner

ATTEST BY:



Jessica Cole, County Clerk

