

**Burke County Office  
Of  
Emergency Services**  
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Emergency Management  
Fire Marshal's Office  
EMS Administration  
Training Division

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## **State and Local Burning Ban In Burke County**

**Morganton, NC** - The Burke County Fire Marshal's Office issued an order Sunday forbidding any outside burning within 100 feet of a structure in Burke County because of severe drought conditions. Commissioner Troxler issued an order Sunday cancelling all burn permits and prohibiting open burning for 14 Western North Carolina counties experiencing drought conditions.

All outside burning is covered by the bans, including but not limited to fire pits, grilling, leaf and yard debris burning.

The 19 fire departments in Burke County have been dispatched to dozens of outside fires since Friday. The Burke County Fire Marshal's Office started issuing fines/citations since Tuesday afternoon, 48 hours after the local order went into effect.

Current dry conditions are very similar to those of the 2016 fire at South Mountains State Park and the 2017 fire in the White Creek area of Linville Gorge. Due to the dry conditions, even a controlled fire can spread very quickly.

Violators of the local Open Burning Ban will face a \$100.00 citation for the first offense which doubles per subsequent occurrence.

Please contact our office at 828-764-9320 with any questions concerning the ban.

Find more information about the local burn ban at [https://burkenc.org/DocumentCenter/View/3122/Burn-Ban\\_5-Nov-2023\\_Local-Ban](https://burkenc.org/DocumentCenter/View/3122/Burn-Ban_5-Nov-2023_Local-Ban). Visit the NCFS news page at [www.ncforestservice.gov/news\\_pubs/newsdesk\\_2023.htm](http://www.ncforestservice.gov/news_pubs/newsdesk_2023.htm) for information and FAQ's concerning the ban.

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