



Rabun County Board of Commissioners

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Thursday, November 9, 2023

Rabun County, Georgia is currently experiencing extremely dry conditions, which greatly increases the potential for dangerous and uncontrollable wildfire activity. Rabun County, Georgia has noted drastically decreased recorded rain fall amounts in the last 30-45 days, which causes the increased threat of wildfires daily—with increased fuel loads, decreased humidities, and increased winds conditions are such that any outdoor fire can rapidly spread out of control, taking longer—and requiring more firefighting resources—to contain and ultimately control. Wildland firefighting resources are being tasked with other large uncontrolled fires in the Southeast Region and will have delayed responses responding if needed.

With the safety and well-being of Rabun County's citizens and visitors, and the protection of the community and lands, effective immediately, the Rabun County Fire Services, the Rabun County Office of Emergency Management, and The Rabun County Board of Commissioner's are implementing an Emergency Outdoor Burn Ban. The above listed agencies have enacted a burn ban on all outdoor burning to include, but not limited to; Any outdoor open flame, Campfires/Warming fires, Cooking fires or Charcoal Grills, Fire Pits, Fire Rings, Chimineas, Debris removal, Barrel Burning, leaf clearing, land clearing both commercial and residential, and fireworks.

Even though Rabun County is predicted to receive a small amount of rain this weekend, it will not be enough to lessen the risks of wildfire danger.

This temporary ban will be in effect starting at 5:00 pm, Thursday, November 9, 2023, and will continue until Thursday, November 23, 2023. After this initial ban, it will be reevaluated based on current conditions and weather precipitation predictions at that time. Depending on weather conditions, this temporary ban could be extended. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during these dangerous conditions.

G. Darrin Giles
Rabun County Administrator

James Reed
Rabun County Fire Chief

Brian A. Panell
Rabun County Emergency Management

Rabun County Commissioners

Greg James
Chairman

Darrin Giles
County Administrator

Scott Crane
Vice Chairman

Allyn Stockton
County Attorney

Tom Garrison
Member

Linda Ramey
County Clerk

Will Nichols
Member

David Conley
Chief Financial Officer

Kent Woerner
Member