

**COUNTY OF BUCKS
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS, COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA, IMPOSING A TEMPORARY COUNTYWIDE BURN BAN ON OPEN
FIRES**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners are desirous of providing for the health, safety and welfare of the people of the County of Bucks; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners in cooperation with its volunteer fire fighting organization and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry is desirous of regulating the outdoor burning; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners are desirous of protecting the people of the County of Bucks in every possible way from the dangers and threats of uncontrolled and unsafe fires; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners have received a written recommendation from the district forester who has received or solicited written and verbal requests from at least ten fire chiefs in the county, from various sections of the county, recommending and requesting the imposition of a temporary countywide burn ban on open fires; and

WHEREAS, the fire chiefs report extreme risk for uncontrolled fire spread due to dry conditions, lack of precipitation, and high winds; and

WHEREAS, under Act 1995-52 of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, found at 16 P.S. Section 13201-13204, the Board of Commissioners are authorized to provide for the imposition of a temporary countywide burn ban on open fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:


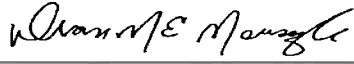
1. A countywide burn ban on open fires is imposed starting on the effective date indicated below. It will remain in effect for 30 days, unless extended by an additional resolution.
2. Definition: Open fires are defined as the ignition and subsequent burning of any combustible material (garbage, leaves, grass, twigs, litter, paper, vegetative matter involved with land clearing, or any sort of debris) outdoors in either a burn barrel, (screened or unscreened) fire ring, or on the ground. The use of propane or gas stoves, charcoal briquet grills, or the use of tobacco in any form is not covered under this definition. Campfires in campgrounds are allowed in fire rings that confine and contain the campfire, and where all flammable materials have been removed for a radius of 5 feet.
3. This burn ban shall supersede any municipal ordinance to the contrary.

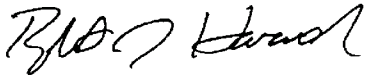
4. Enforcement


- a) Enforcing officials - Any sworn police officer when available, including the Pennsylvania State Police, shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this act.
 - b) Limitation - Whenever a violation of this act occurs in a municipality which has in effect an ordinance prohibiting open burning, the police officer may cite the violation under either the municipal ordinance or the county resolution. Under no circumstances shall any person be cited for violations of both the county resolution and the municipal ordinance for the same violation.
5. Penalty - A person who violates this act commits a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to any a fine of not more than \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second offense and \$300 for the third offense.
 6. Copies of this resolution will be distributed to all municipalities and also via media outlets.
 7. Effective Date – This temporary countywide burn ban will take effect On Sunday, October 27, 2024. The ban is in effect for 30 days. The ban may be terminated before 30 days upon request of the district forester and at least 10 fire chiefs.

ADOPTED as a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Bucks this 25th day of October 2024.

COUNTY OF BUCKS, PENNSYLVANIA

ATTEST:  BY: 
Gail Humphrey Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, LCSW
Chief Clerk Commissioner, Chair

DATE: 10/25/2024 BY: 
Robert J. Harvie, Jr.
Commissioner, Vice Chair

BY: 
Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary