

FRANKLIN COUNTY EMERGENCY DECLARATION ORDER 26-01

AN ORDER AND DECLARATION REGARDING OPEN BURNING

WHEREAS, in accordance with Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, authorizing political subdivisions to take whatever prudent actions is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes authorizes political subdivisions to take all necessary action and issue any necessary orders to protect human life; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners authorizes the Chairman of the Board to issue Emergency Declaration Order 26-01, dated April 8, 2026, at 12:00 PM; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has Adopted Emergency Order 26-01 in order to take actions that continue to be necessary to protect the public; and

WHEREAS, based on current conditions, the Director of Emergency Management recommends that the Board ban the burning of debris and trash.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED THAT THE FOLLOWING IS PROHIBITED IN Franklin COUNTY, FLORIDA:

1. Open burning, except (a) outdoor grills used in preparing food; and (b) commercial land clearing where on-site inspection and approval has been granted by the Florida Forest Service, on a case-by-case basis, and it is determined that there will be sufficient fire suppression equipment and personnel on-site.
2. The sale, use and/or discharge of items listed in Florida Statute 791.01(4)(fireworks) using explosive or combustible compounds.
3. The use or discharge of flares.
4. The use of outdoor burning devices, excluding attended and monitored barbeque or cooking equipment.
5. Any otherwise lawful outdoor burning, such as lawn, debris, or trash burning.
6. The parking of vehicles with catalytic converters in high grassy areas.
7. The disposal of matches or cigarettes, etc., except in proper disposal containers.

Exception. The use of an air curtain incinerator is allowed for the combustion of land clearing debris or storm-related natural vegetative debris, provided the incinerator has a Florida Department of Environmental Protection air permit or has been exempted from air permitting by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. If an air curtain incinerator has been exempted from air permitting by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, prior authorization to use the incinerator must be obtained from the Florida Forest Service. Prior to use of the air curtain incinerator, the user shall notify Franklin County Emergency Services of the date and time of the burn.

Any person violating this Order or any person who willfully fails or refuse to comply with the order or orders of any duly authorized law enforcement officer or personnel charged with the responsibility for the enforcement of such Order shall, upon conviction, therefore, be punished in accordance with Florida Statutes Section 252.50.

If any provision of this Order is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of the Order, which shall continue to have the full force and effect of law.

The Order shall remain in effect during the local state of emergency unless otherwise modified or rescinded.

This Order shall be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court immediately following its adoption.

Adopted this 8th day of April 2026.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Ricky Jones, Chairman