



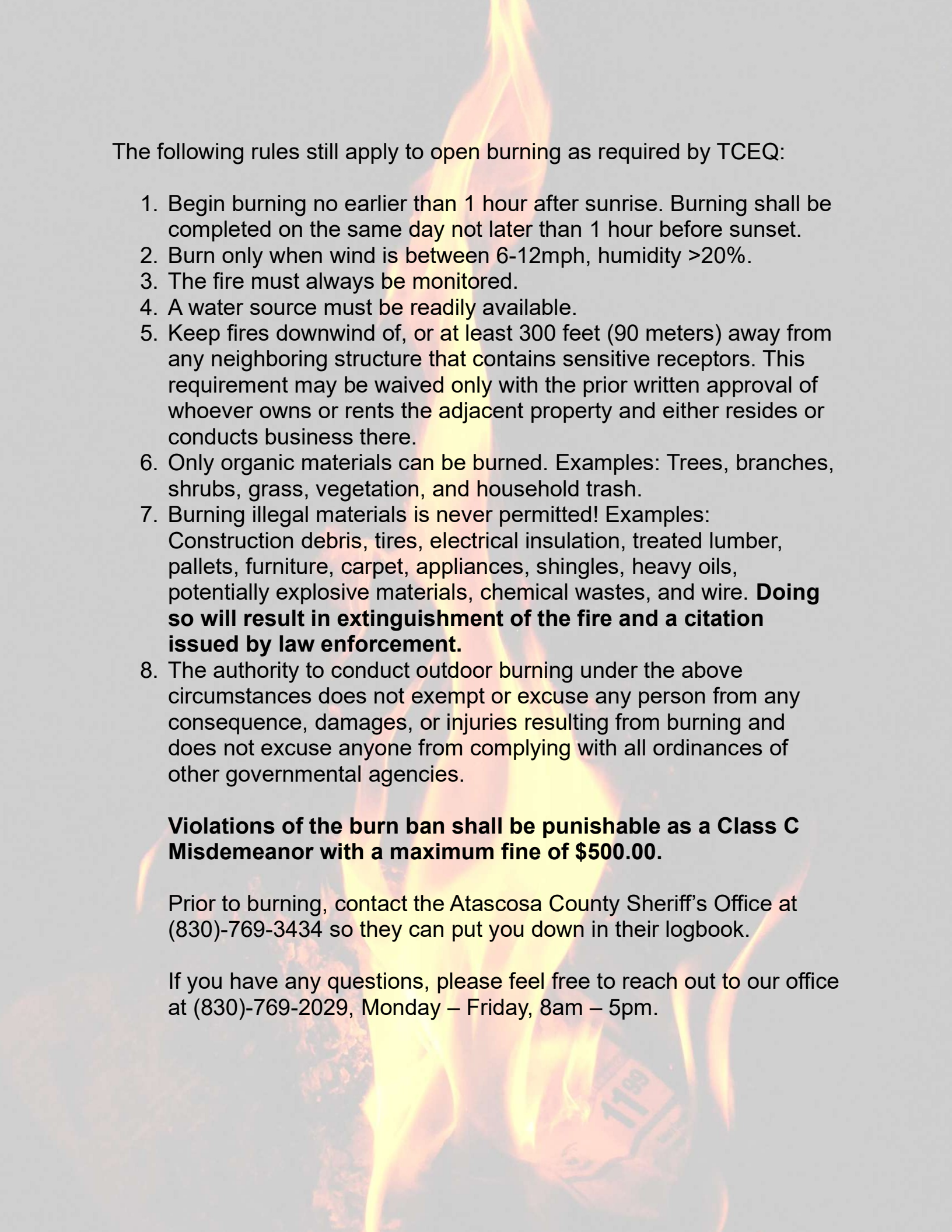
ATASCOSA COUNTY BURN BAN IN EFFECT



When a burn ban is in effect, all outdoor burning, other than these exceptions (Firefighter Training, Fires for Cooking, Agricultural Burns, and Domestic Waste Burning) **is prohibited**. All burns must follow TCEQ Outdoor Burn Regulations for Texas and Atascosa County. **This only applies to the unincorporated areas of Atascosa County. (Burns are not allowed within the city limits of any municipality.)**

LEGAL FIRES DURING A BURN BAN

- **Firefighter Training:** Must be conducted by a Fire Department.
- **Cooking Fires:** BBQ fires are permitted as long as they are contained to a BBQ pit or fire ring. Cooking fires should be done using caution, with a means of controlling and keeping the fire from spreading. The fire must be monitored during burning by an adult with a means of extinguishing the fire.
- **Agricultural Burns:** Agricultural burns are allowed with approval from the Atascosa County Fire Marshal and must be on more than 10 acres and it must be for agricultural purposes.
- **Domestic Waste:** Household trash may be burned. Examples: Household garbage, cardboard boxes, packaging, clothing, grass, leaves, and branch trimmings. The trash must come from a property that is designed for and used exclusively as a private residence, housing not more than 3 families. The trash must be burned on the property where it is produced. Trash must be burned in a barrel with a means of controlling sparks and embers from leaving the barrel (screen or grate), with a way of controlling and preventing the fire from spreading. The fire must be monitored during burning by an adult with a means of extinguishing the fire.



The following rules still apply to open burning as required by TCEQ:

1. Begin burning no earlier than 1 hour after sunrise. Burning shall be completed on the same day not later than 1 hour before sunset.
2. Burn only when wind is between 6-12mph, humidity >20%.
3. The fire must always be monitored.
4. A water source must be readily available.
5. Keep fires downwind of, or at least 300 feet (90 meters) away from any neighboring structure that contains sensitive receptors. This requirement may be waived only with the prior written approval of whoever owns or rents the adjacent property and either resides or conducts business there.
6. Only organic materials can be burned. Examples: Trees, branches, shrubs, grass, vegetation, and household trash.
7. Burning illegal materials is never permitted! Examples: Construction debris, tires, electrical insulation, treated lumber, pallets, furniture, carpet, appliances, shingles, heavy oils, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, and wire. **Doing so will result in extinguishment of the fire and a citation issued by law enforcement.**
8. The authority to conduct outdoor burning under the above circumstances does not exempt or excuse any person from any consequence, damages, or injuries resulting from burning and does not excuse anyone from complying with all ordinances of other governmental agencies.

Violations of the burn ban shall be punishable as a Class C Misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$500.00.

Prior to burning, contact the Atascosa County Sheriff's Office at (830)-769-3434 so they can put you down in their logbook.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our office at (830)-769-2029, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm.