COUNTY OF JASPER

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## **DECLARATION OF DISASTER**

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## ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the County of Jasper, Texas, on the \_\_\_6<sup>th</sup>\_\_\_ day of August, 2015, is in imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from countywide drought conditions. Such conditions have created a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning.

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Jasper County, Texas, has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect life, and protect or rehabilitate property and are necessary and hereby ordered.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF JASPER COUNTY:

- I. That a local state of disaster was declared on May 24, 2015 for Jasper County, Texas by the County Judge of Jasper County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- II. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster was continued by the Commissioners Court of Jasper County, Texas, on May 29, 2015 for a period of 75 days from the date of the declaration continuation, and remains in effect until its expiration, unless it is renewed, continued or rescinded by the Commissioners Court.
- III. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local disaster was, and shall, be given prompt and general publicity and filed promptly with the Jasper County Clerk.
- IV. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activated the Jasper County Emergency Management Plan.
- V. Pursuant to Section 352.081 of the Texas Local Government Code, it has now become necessary to restrict outdoor burning due to current drought conditions.
- VI. It is hereby ordered that all outdoor burning **or** outdoor burning of trash, brush, trees, storm debris, construction material debris or open campfires is prohibited until expiration of this Order, unless renewed, continued or rescinded by the Commissioners Court of Jasper County, Texas.

- VII. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
- This Order shall not apply to burning of vegetative material when such burning is performed in accordance with a prescribed plan which addresses the useful nature of such activity such as natural resource management as described by the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service.
- IX. In accordance with Local Government Code Section 352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

**ORDERED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

Mark W. Allen, County Judge

Jasper County, Texas

Attest:

Debbie Newman, County Clerk

Jasper County, Texas

DEBBIE NEWMAN, COUNTY CLERK JASPER COUNTY, REXAS

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