

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

A PROCLAMATION BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPOSING A BURN BAN IN BRADFORD COUNTY AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 252.38(3)(a)(5), *FLORIDA STATUTES*.

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida adopted Ordinance 2001-05; later codified as Chapter 26 of the *Bradford County Code of Ordinances* (hereinafter referred to as the Code) invoking the powers provided for in Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 26-8(a) of the Code, the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida granted authority to the Emergency Management Director to declare, by proclamation, a state of local emergency from time to time when it is determined that conditions exist giving rise to such a declaration; and

WHEREAS, according to Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), *Florida Statutes*, the duration of each state of emergency declared locally is limited to seven days and may be extended, as necessary, in seven-day increments; and

WHEREAS, a countywide burn ban is in effect for Bradford County due to the unusually dry weather conditions increasing the probability of wildfires. The mandatory ban affects all of Bradford County, including rural and municipal areas. It will remain in effect until formally terminated by a majority of the Bradford County Commission; and

WHEREAS, the burn ban prohibits all outdoor burning that has not been specifically permitted by the State of Florida, Division of Forestry, as well as the use of any fireworks, sparklers, flares, or other pyrotechnic devices except for public displays requiring a permit; and

WHEREAS, the use of Liquid Propane Gas/ Liquid Natural Gas (LPG/LNG) grills and charcoal grills is permitted, the public is encouraged to keep a constant watch for any stray sparks or embers while cooking outdoors. Additionally, due to the potential for accidental ignitions, the use of motorized equipment such as ATVs and dirt bikes is discouraged during times of high wildfire risk; and

WHEREAS, the public is encouraged to bear in mind that lawnmowers, both push and riding, also pose accidental ignition risks. Citizens are asked to exercise extreme caution during the burn ban; and

WHEREAS, homeowners are encouraged to reduce the risk of damage from wildfires by clearing the area around their homes of underbrush and/or dry plants/vegetation as these items create fuel for wildfires as well as to ensure that roofs and gutters are clear of trees and debris; and

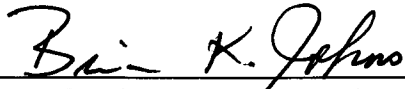
WHEREAS, any burning within Bradford County during the imposed ban will be in violation of County Ordinance 2001-05, Section 26-8(a); and section 252.50 of *Florida Statutes*. It will be considered a second-degree misdemeanor, punishable by up to a 60-day imprisonment and up to a \$500.00 fine. Persons responsible for unlawful burning could also bear costs associated with extinguishing fires.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 26, *Bradford County Code*, and Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*, for the aforementioned and above-outlined reasons, I hereby declare and proclaim a local state of emergency in Bradford County, Florida, for the period commencing on April 26, 2017 and continuing through May 2, 2017


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DULY PROCLAIMED this 26th day of April 2017 by the Emergency Management
Director of Bradford County, Florida.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA


By: BRIAN K. JOHNS, as its
Emergency Management Director

ATTEST:


By: RAY NORMAN, as
Clerk to the Board