

FROM (DEPT/ DIVISION): Land Use Planning  
PROGRAM: Smoke Management

SUBJECT: Emergency Agricultural Burning Ban

<p><b>Background:</b> Currently there is a Non-Agricultural Burn Ban in place, adopted on July 3, 2024. Staff is requesting that the Board consider enacting a temporary ban on all Agricultural burning for the following reasons; the significant number of wildfires currently burning in and near Umatilla County and the depletion of emergency response resources, the serious impact to public health due to poor air quality, and the fact that Governor Kotek has invoked the Emergency Conflagration Act in response to the wildfires in our area. Staff recommends a 14-day ban to begin with, that can be extended if wildfire impacts continue to escalate. Staff will issue a press release immediately following this action.</p>	<p>( ) INFORMATIONAL ( X ) <u>ACTION REQUESTED:</u>  Adopt Order No. BCC2024-049</p>
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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Order; 2. Draft Press Release for Agricultural Burn Ban to media

OTHER:

- 1.

Submitted By: Gina Miller, Smoke Management Committee liaison

\*\*\*\*\*For Internal Use Only\*\*\*\*\*

Checkoffs:

- ( ) Exec. Asst.
- ( X ) Dept. Head (copy)
- ( ) Human Resources (copy)
- ( ) Budget (copy)
- ( ) Fiscal
- ( X ) Legal
- ( ) (Other – List:

To be notified of Meeting:  
Gina Miller, Bob Waldher

Needed at Meeting:  
Gina Miller

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND ATTACHMENTS TO OFFICE MANAGER

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Scheduled for meeting on: July 30, 2024

Action taken:

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Follow-up:

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UMATILLA COUNTY

STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Implementing )  
Temporary Ban on All Burning ) Order No. BCC2024-049  
in Umatilla County )

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners has adopted a Burn Ordinance, codified at Chapter 91 of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances, and Smoke Management Ordinance, codified at Chapter 95 of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances, to regulate the open burning within certain areas of Umatilla County;

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners may prohibit burning based on general fire safety conditions, as confirmed by Section 91.06(D)(3) and 95.04(5)(E);

WHEREAS due to dry conditions, temperature, numerous wildfires, and the need to prevent uncontrolled burns.

NOW THEREFORE the Board of Commissioners orders that there is a temporary ban on all open burning, including agricultural burning, within the unincorporated areas of the county that are under the jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners, but not including: those parts of the unincorporated areas of Umatilla County that are protected by a rural fire protection district; any land under the jurisdiction of the State of Oregon; any land under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, and Harris Park, which follows the guidelines and restrictions of the Oregon Department of Forestry. This order is effective from 2:00 p.m. , July 30, 2024, until 5:00 a.m. August 14, 2024.

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day July, 2024.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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John M. Shafer, Chair

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Celinda A. Timmons, Commissioner

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Daniel N. Dorran, Commissioner

ATTEST:  
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS

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Records Officer

COMMUNITY &  
BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT

**PRESS RELEASE**

LAND USE  
PLANNING,  
ZONING AND  
PERMITTING

**Date: July 30, 2024**

**Contact: Gina Miller  
Smoke Management Liaison  
(541)278-6300**

CODE  
ENFORCEMENT

SOLID WASTE  
COMMITTEE

SMOKE  
MANAGEMENT

GIS AND  
MAPPING

RURAL  
ADDRESSING

LIAISON,  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES &  
ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC  
TRANSIT

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# Agricultural Burn Ban

## EFFECTIVE JULY 30, 2024

### @ 2:00 P.M.

Pendleton, OR – On July 30, 2024, the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners adopted an authorization declaring a temporary ban on all **AGRICULTURAL burning** within the unincorporated areas of Umatilla County effective **JULY 30, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.** This Agricultural Burn Ban is in addition to the existing Non-Agricultural Burn Ban that was adopted on July 3, 2024. This excludes land under the jurisdiction of the State of Oregon, the United States Government, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and areas covered by a rural Fire District. This temporary **AGRICULTURAL** burn ban will be effective for 14 days, but can be extended if wildfire conditions continue to escalate.

This order, as stated, means that the temporary ban is only for those areas under the jurisdiction of the Umatilla County Smoke Management Ordinance. It applies, but is not limited to, all **Agricultural** open burning such as fence line burning, field burns, orchard slash piles, **burn barrels**, and yard and garden debris piles.

Burn bans are common this time of year due to dry conditions, air quality impacts from uncontrolled fires, and regulated haze reduction days for community events. Haze reduction events include the Umatilla County Fair, Milton-Freewater Festival, Walla Walla County Fair, Labor Day Weekend and the Pendleton Round-Up.

## UMATILLA COUNTY OPEN BURNING JURISDICTIONS AND PERMITS

- Umatilla County has permitting jurisdiction over all agricultural field burning (>2 acres) and all orchards through the County Smoke Management Ordinance. Additionally, the county has jurisdiction over residential and agricultural burning outside of fire districts.
- Established Rural Fire Protection Districts (taxed districts) have jurisdiction within their districts for residential burning (less than 2 acres, burn barrels, etc.) and fire protection, including permitting. Most Fire Districts currently have burn bans in effect.

For more information about this Agricultural Burn Ban, or to report illegal burning, call the Umatilla County Planning Department at (541)278-6252 or Umatilla County Dispatch (541)966-3651 after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

For more information about the Umatilla County Smoke Management Ordinance, call the Umatilla County Planning Department at (541)278-6252 or online at [www.umatillacounty.gov](http://www.umatillacounty.gov).

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