



**For Immediate Release
November 16, 2023**

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**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES BURN BAN
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

ORANGE COUNTY, Va. – During the November 15 Orange County Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board unanimously approved a ban on open burning in Orange County, effective immediately, until further notice.

This ban is intended to promote safety and reduce the risk of wildfire in Orange County. Recent dry and windy conditions have created a favorable setting for the start and spread of wildfires, which have impacted many localities throughout the Commonwealth, including neighboring Madison County.

On November 7, the Governor declared a State of Emergency in response to wildfires in Virginia. That declaration may be viewed at <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/news-releases/2023/november/name-1016826-en.html>.

With this ban, open burning is prohibited. Contained outdoor fires, such as those in fire pits or grills, are not restricted but must be attended at all times and fully extinguished before being left unattended. Non-prohibited outdoor burning is still strongly discouraged until weather conditions improve.

Those with questions should contact County of Orange Fire & EMS (COFEMS) at the non-emergency number of (540) 672-7044. As always, those reporting active, uncontrolled fires should call 9-1-1.

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