

RESOLUTION 2025-11 – EXTENSION #18

CONTINUING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDER PERTAINING TO A BAN ON OUTDOOR BURNING DEVICES, ANY OTHER LAWFUL OUTDOOR BURNING, AND PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF FLARES, EXPLOSIVES, AND SPARKLERS

WHEREAS, a state of local emergency still exists due to the severe threat of fire to lives and property for the residents of Union County, Florida; and,

WHEREAS, that due to the official drought index or known dry and windy conditions, which continue to cause, exacerbate, and increase the threat of wildfires within Union County, further measures are still required to protect Union County citizens and visitors and to otherwise protect their health, safety, welfare and property; and,

WHEREAS, the drought index continues to remain at a significant threat level in Northeast Florida and Union County, and future forecasts predict continued dry conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the power vested with the Director of the Union County Office of Emergency Management and the Board of County Commissioners and Union County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT, during the state of local emergency, the dispensing use or discharge of (1) items listed in Florida Statute 791.01(4) (fireworks) using explosive or combustible compounds (2) flares: and the use of outdoor burning devices (excluding attended and monitored barbeque/cooking equipment); shall be prohibited throughout Union County during the period of this order. Cooperation between the Florida Forest Service and Union County will remain constant. This order will be reviewed every 10 days for continuance or withdrawal. In the absence of significant drought changes that are in favor, the order remains intact throughout its lawful period until conditions are safe.

- 1) All outdoor burning of yard trash, household paper products, bonfires, campfires, warming fires, outdoor fireplaces, chimeneas, and cooking fires within Union County is prohibited unless: a) authorized by the Florida Forest Service; or b) for the cooking of food exclusively within a contained gas or charcoal grill.
- 2) The setting of fires to any grass, brush, or forest covered land, unless authorized by the Florida Forest Service, shall constitute a violation of law.

If a court of competent jurisdiction invalidates any provision of this Order, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of the Order, which shall continue to have the full force and effect of law.

This state of local emergency and ban may be modified in whole or part, extended or terminated on recommendation of the Director of Emergency Management after consulting with qualified weather forecasting officials of the State of Florida, Florida Forest Service, the Sheriff of Union County, and the Board of County Commissioners.

Order will become effective immediately and shall expire 10 days from issuance unless extended as stated above as threat of wildfire and/or weather situations dictate.

DONE AND ORDERED THIS 16th DAY OF MAY, 2026

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA

SIGNATURE VESTED AUTHORITY BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE UNION COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Timothy Allen

TIMOTHY ALLEN, DIRECTOR OF UNION COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT