

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-01

AN ORDER TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF FIRE AND RISK TO PERSONAL INJURY AND PROPERTY BY TAKING EMERGENCY MEASURES TO RESTRICT BURNING IN THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Walker County Board of Commissioners and Walker County Fire Chief / Walker County Emergency Management Director have determined that drought conditions exist within the county; and

WHEREAS, these extremely dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous wildfires, as well as create an environment for residential debris burns to escape and spread out of control, and

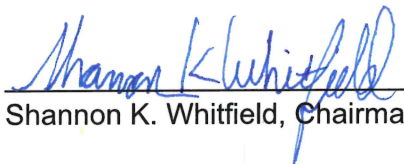
WHEREAS, such fires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, wildfires presently exist within the county, as well as nearby counties, and the threat of fire danger remains high; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Forestry is currently not issuing permits for agriculture, silviculture, land-clearing burns and vegetative storm debris in the county due to the drought conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Shannon K. Whitfield, Chairman of the Board of Commissioner of Walker County, Georgia, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Code of Walker County, Georgia, state of Georgia and other applicable laws, due hereby **order a 45-day ban on all outdoor burning**, including, but not limited to, small piles of natural vegetation, yard debris and campfires in Walker County, and request the full Board of Commissioners ratify this Order at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

This Order shall be effective and enforceable at 5:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, on Saturday, November 4, 2023, and upon ratification by Resolution, shall remain in effect until 4:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at which time the suspension of any laws and rules and the other provisions of this Order shall cease and be of no further force or effect.


Shannon K. Whitfield, Chairman/CEO