

## **Order of the Gwinnett County Fire Marshal's Office**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in late 2019, the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, SARS-CoV-2, emerged causing a novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, which has now become a worldwide pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 pandemic a national emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, the Governor of the State of Georgia declared that a Public Health State of Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the public health emergency from the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Order issued by the Governor found that the uninterrupted supply of emergency related services during this emergency is an essential need of the public and that any perceived or actual shortage threatens the public welfare;

**WHEREAS**, the availability of Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services personnel is of crucial importance to the uninterrupted supply of emergency related services to the citizens of Gwinnett County during this emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, responding to calls related to outdoor fires will divert the personnel and resources of Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services from providing such emergency related services during this emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) prohibits citizens and businesses in 54 Georgia counties, including Gwinnett County, from burning yard and land-clearing debris from May 1 through September 30 (the "Summer Burn Ban"); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 42-46 of the Gwinnett County Code of Ordinances provides that the Fire Marshal's Office may temporarily prohibit any and/or all outdoor fires when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in the Fire Marshal's Office by local and state law;

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

That the following outdoor fires are prohibited:

- (1) Burning of leaves, limbs and natural vegetation that may fall on one's property;
- (2) Prescribed burning;
- (3) Acquired structure burns;
- (4) Vegetative debris from storms;
- (5) Weed abatement, disease and pest prevention;

The ban imposed by this Order shall be effective on March 23, 2020 at 10:00 p.m. and continue through April 30, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

This 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2020.



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Gwinnett County Fire Marshal's Office