

DISASTER DECLARATION RELATED TO DROUGHT AND THE CONTINUING RISK OF WILDFIRE

Whereas, Governor Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas, on the 11th day of August 2023, added Madison County in a declaration of disaster for drought. Madison County has not had significant rainfall for an extended period of time, creating hot and dry conditions which has resulted in widespread and severe damage, and poses additional threats of large, dangerous and fast-moving wildfires; which have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

Whereas, Madison County is currently under a burn ban order for the entire county; and

Whereas, the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) maintained by Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Texas A&M Forest Service, is an index used to determine fire potential and the current KBDI for Madison County is at an average value of 576 as of September 18, 2023. The U.S. Drought Monitor, formed by the National Drought Mitigation Center, the United States Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, has classified 100% of Madison County as being in extreme drought, which supports the conclusion that the county is in severe drought and under increased risk of wildfire occurrence; and

Whereas, state assets have been requested and utilized to assist Madison County on these fires and future fires; and

Whereas, pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418 County Judge Clark Osborne declared a local disaster within the county on September 12, 2023; and

Whereas, the County Judge and Commissioners Court of Madison County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken as due to the magnitude of potential damage and the rapidity with which fires could escalate; and

Whereas, on September 18, 2023, the Madison County Commissioners Court met in Special Session and deemed it necessary to extend the Disaster Declaration Related to Drought and the Continuing Risk of Wildfires for an additional ninety (90) days; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF MADISON COUNTY

1. That a local disaster was initially declared for Madison County pursuant to §418.108 of the Texas Government Code on September 12, 2023.
2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code, the local disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days (7) days except with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision.
3. Pursuant to § 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local disaster continues the activation of the county emergency management plan.

5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and shall be related to activities that have occurred and will occur in conjunction with the event described above.

Madison County Commissioners Court has officially extended the Disaster Declaration Related to Drought and the Continuing Risk of Wildfires for ninety (90) days from September 18, 2023.

Passed and Approved by Madison County Commissioners Court this 18th day of September, 2023.



Clark Osborne – Madison County Judge



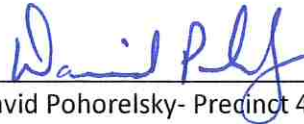
Ken Starr - Precinct 1 Commissioner



Carl Wiseman- Precinct 2 Commissioner



Carl Cannon- Precinct 3 Commissioner



David Pohorelsky- Precinct 4 Commissioner

Attest:



Adrian Lawson
Madison County Clerk

