IN THE MATTER OF FIRE HAZARD IN BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

COURT ORDER NO. 2026 - 97

NOW on this 1st day of September, 2026, a day on which this Court deems to be in session, comes on for consideration of establishing a burn ban in the unincorporated areas of Baxter County.

Due to the current weather conditions and continued drying conditions, it has become necessary to ban all outdoor burning in Baxter County in accordance with Baxter County Code §360.02.

Section 1. The Court finds that an emergency exists in the unincorporated areas of Baxter County, and the potential hazard to life and property is such that a ban and prohibition against outdoor burning is hereby declared until such time as this order is lifted.

Section 2. This order shall be enforceable by and through the Baxter County Sheriff's Department.

Section 3. Outdoor burning may be permitted under special circumstances, when the Court is assured that all necessary and proper precautions are being enforced to ensure that burning constitutes no hazard to life and property. No outdoor burning shall be permitted in the absence of a written permit from the County Judge and the Fire Chief of the appropriate fire protection district, or governing body of their designee, i.e., U.S. Corp of Engineers, Arkansas State Park and Forest Service or the U.S. National Forest Service, please note A.C.A.§5-38-310(a)(7).

Section 4. Failure to comply with the burning ban shall constitute a misdemeanor. A misdemeanor allows the District Judge to set the fine from zero to $500.00 for the first offense and up to $1,000.00 for each subsequent offense.

NOW THEREFORE, the Baxter County Court hereby orders a Burn Ban in all unincorporated areas of Baxter County until such time conditions change and the Court lifts the ban.

ENTERED THIS 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2026.

Kevin Litty

Kevin Litty
Baxter County Judge

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CANDA REESE
BAXTER CO, AR CIRCUIT CLERK