

# SANTA FE COUNTY

Ordinance No. 2003- 3

2475908

## AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE DECLARING HAZARDOUS FIRE CONDITIONS WARRANTING A SITUATION IN SANTA FE COUNTY TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON FIREWORKS, OPEN FIRES AND SMOKING WITHIN SANTA FE COUNTY

Be it ordained by the Board of Santa Fe County Commissioners:

A. The Board of County Commissioners hereby **FINDS**:

1. The danger of range fires, brush fires, grass fires, forest fires and structure fires is extremely high in Santa Fe County.
2. Current fire conditions such as low relative humidity, weather, and fuel content and condition have been extremely high in Santa Fe County.
3. The probability of ignition of materials and fire spread is extremely high in Santa Fe County.
4. In recent months, the Santa Fe County Fire Department has responded to numerous brush, grass, range and forest fires throughout Santa Fe County.
5. Many of the above fires have threatened structures/homes in Santa Fe County.
6. Many of these fires have been started by agricultural and other open burning, campfires and/or smoking.
7. In light of these conditions, the U. S. Forest Service and New Mexico State Forestry may soon implement fire restrictions in the Santa Fe area.

B. The Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners, therefore, declares that the dry conditions and high fire hazards represent a significant and immediate threat to the safety, health and welfare of Santa Fe County.

C. **WHEREFORE**, the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners **ADOPTS** the following prohibitions:

1. Campfires
2. Open fires
3. Open burning of vegetation or rubbish
4. Use of aerial and ground audible fireworks as follows:
  - a. Aerial spinners, helicopters, mines, missile-type rockets, roman candles, shells, stick-type rockets.
  - b. Chasers and firecrackers

5. Smoking within a County park, campground or any wildland area except within an enclosed vehicle or building.
6. Unauthorized use of off-road vehicles, motor bikes and chain saws within County parks, campground and wildland areas.
7. The issuance of licenses or permits for burning.
8. Except as specifically set forth herein, nothing in this emergency ordinance shall be construed to limit the authority or responsibilities of the Santa Fe County Fire Marshal or the Santa Fe County Sheriff under the provisions of other ordinances.
9. Public displays of fireworks as defined in Santa Fe County ordinance 1988-3 are permitted in strict conformance with the requirements and conditions for public displays set forth in that ordinance.
10. Any individual, firm, partnership or other entity found violating this emergency ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by imprisonment for up to six months or a fine not to exceed three hundred dollars, or both.
11. Each and every occasion on which this emergency ordinance is violated shall be considered a separate offense.
12. If any paragraph or provision of this ordinance is adjudged to be invalid for any reason, the remainder of this emergency ordinance, not so adjudged, shall remain in full force and effect.
13. This ordinance shall take effect on a date certain based upon fire danger indices as determined by the Fire Marshal following its passage by the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners.
14. This ordinance, including any extensions, shall remain in effect until the Fire Marshal determines that the fire danger has alleviated or for a period of one year, whichever comes first.

**APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED this 25th day of March, 2003.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



*[Signature]*  
 Jack Sullivan, Chairman

*[Signature]*  
 Rebecca Bustamante, County Clerk



Approved as to Form:  
*[Signature]*  
 Santa Fe County Attorney

1256.278  
 COUNTY OF SANTA FE  
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS INSTRUMENT WAS FILED  
 FOR RECORD ON THE 26 DAY OF Mar A.D.  
 2003 AT 8:18 O'CLOCK P.M.  
 AND WAS DULY RECORDED IN BOOK 908-909 OF THE RECORDS OF  
 PAGE 2475  
 SANTA FE COUNTY  
 REBECCA BUSTAMANTE  
 COUNTY CLERK, SANTA FE COUNTY, N.M.  
*[Signature]*  
 DEPUTY

for