

**RESOLUTION  
DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

**Declaration of Local Emergency, Drought Warning, and Recommendation against Open-Air Burning**

**WHEREAS**, the County Administrator serving as the Director of Emergency Management of Page County did hereby find:

1. Rainfall has been extremely low across Page County for the last six months;
2. Abnormally dry conditions exist across Page County;
3. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has declared a drought warning for Page County;
4. The severely dry conditions that currently exist are favorable for rapid fire spread which has the potential to impact life safety, cause peril to property, and create significant widespread fire hazard conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, it is strongly recommended that there is no open-air burning county-wide; and

**WHEREAS**, having met criteria for declaration of a local drought warning, pursuant to § 122-5 (Drought Management Ordinance) of the Page County Code, a drought warning is declared. Under a declared drought warning, restrictions on water usage are encouraged and requested;

**WHEREAS**, drought and atmospheric conditions will be continually monitored to justify the continuation of a local state of emergency and drought warning.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that a state of local emergency exists throughout Page County, that a drought warning is declared, and open-air burning is declared a hazard to the public safety and welfare to the citizens of Page County.

**IT IS FURTHER HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that restrictions on water usage by the citizens and businesses of Page County are declared to be in the public interest for the safety and welfare of the citizens of Page County.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Management and the Emergency Management organization of Page County shall be those prescribed by State Law and the Ordinances, Resolutions, and approved plans of Page County in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.

Dated: September 7, 2023

  
Director of Emergency Management

  
Attest: Deputy Clerk