



**FIRE EMERGENCY & BURN RESTRICTIONS  
DECLARATION  
WILLIAMS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA  
MARCH 18, 2025**



**WHEREAS**, Williams County, North Dakota has and is expected to continue to endure periods of dry conditions with significant vegetative fuels available; and

**WHEREAS**, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

**WHEREAS**, Williams County, has either sustained or been threatened with rural fires in the past and the local Emergency Management Office has been in consultation with local fire departments; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens in Williams County; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of response, inordinate equipment wear/tear and fire damages may be beyond available Williams County resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Williams County wishes to regulate activities within Williams County, which pose a potential hazard for such loss, should the present weather conditions continue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the executive officer of Williams County, the Chairman of the Williams County Board Commissioners, pursuant to authority under N.D.C.C. § 37-17.1-10(1), hereby declares **a Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions to be in effect when** the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the **Very High or Extreme** category **and/or a Red Flag Warning has been issued** for Williams County, North Dakota; that this declaration shall be effective immediately; that the Williams County Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to authority under N.D.C.C. § 37-17.1-10(1), by a majority roll call vote, hereby authorizes continuation of this declaration of a local state of fire emergency and burn restriction until rescinded or through December 31, 2025, whichever is later; and further, the Board authorizes expenditures out of the Williams County emergency fund pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 57-15-28 or any other available source for, or in response to, any such emergency.

<b>What's Included: No Burning When Activity Matches Below</b> ( <a href="#">ND Administrative Code Chapter 33.1-15-04</a> )	
<b>Very High</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, garbage/pit, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).
<b>Extreme</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, garbage/pit, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).
<b>Red Flag Warning</b>	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, garbage/pit, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).


**THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN RESTRICTION IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR  
(NDCC 37.17.1-10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$1,500.00 FINE).**

This declaration is for all of Williams County. However, incorporated cities may have their own permanent burn restrictions based on local ordinances, so please check with the city that you live in before burning.

The Daily Fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>

DATED at Williston, North Dakota this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025

  
Cory Hanson, Chairman  
Williams County Board of County Commissioners

  
Beth M. Innis, Auditor  
Williams County Auditor