



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Paul A. Anthony · 830-221-1110 · anthop@co.comal.tx.us

Contact:

Kory Klabunde (kluh-BUN-dee), Fire Marshal
830.643.3748
klabuk@co.comal.tx.us

County burn ban lifted until Thursday

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, JANUARY 17, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Outdoor burning in unincorporated Comal County is allowed at least until next week after County Judge Sherman Krause lifted the burn ban this morning.

On Friday the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI), which measures soil dryness, dropped to just above 500, the threshold at which the burn bans are typically implemented. As of 10 a.m., it had fallen to 508 after several days of rain showers.

“Although the county hasn’t received the kind of soaking rain we need to saturate the ground, the surface and vegetation are wet enough to allow outdoor burning for a short while,” said Comal County Fire Marshal Kory Klabunde. “However, once the clouds clear, we expect things to dry out quickly.”

As a result, Commissioners Court will consider reimplementing the ban at its next meeting Thursday.

The ban was lifted at 10:20 a.m. Friday; Commissioners Court in 2019 first enacted a ban effective July 26, lifted it Oct. 25 and reimplemented it effective Dec. 6.

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Comal County Public Information Office

830.221.1110

anthop@co.comal.tx.us

www.comalcountytexas.com