

PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE KEVIN M. BYRNE

PUTNAM COUNTY DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency is hereby declared in all of the County of Putnam, effective at 5:00PM on October 28, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the State of Emergency has been declared due to the severely dry conditions and lack of rain, which have caused an increased risk of wildfires and put the region under a high fire danger rating from the New York State Department of Conservation; and

WHEREAS, such conditions threaten or imperil the public safety of the citizens of the County of Putnam; and

WHEREAS, this State of Emergency will remain in effect until rescinded by a subsequent order;

NOW THEREFORE, as the Chief Executive of the County of Putnam, I, Kevin M. Byrne, Putnam County Executive, exercise the authority granted to me under New York State Executive Law, Chapter 18, Article 2-B, § 24 to preserve the public safety, and to make available and provide for all required assistance vital to the security, well-being, and health of the citizens of this county. I hereby direct all departments and agencies of the County of Putnam to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure, and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary by declaring a State of Emergency.

Dated: October 29, 2024 Carmel, New York

KEVIN M. BYRNE
Putnam County Executive
40 Gleneida Avenue
Carmel, New York 10512

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1 OF 2024

AN ORDER AND DECLARATION FOR A BURN BAN FOR THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM UNDER LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Executive finds that circumstances present within the County of Putnam create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Executive heretofore has declared a State of Emergency for all of the County of Putnam effective 5:00PM on October 28, 2024, declaring that a state of emergency exists throughout the County of Putnam due to severe dry conditions and the threat of wildfires and its imminent threat to the health and welfare of County of Putnam citizens; and

WHEREAS, Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law, authorizes this order by allowing political subdivisions to take whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, this order shall remain in effect until removed by order of the County Executive; and

WHEREAS, failure to obey this order is a criminal offense, punishable by law under New York State Executive Law, Article IIB; and

NOW, **THEREFORE**, it is **ORDERED** that outdoor burning is prohibited in all the County of Putnam as follows:

1. Actions prohibited:

- a. A person violates this order if he/she burns any combustible material in an outdoor area.
- b. A person violates this order if he/she engages in any outdoor activity which could allow flames or sparks that could result in a fire.

2. Enforcement:

- a. Upon notification of suspected outdoor burning the local volunteer fire companies shall be notified to respond to the scene and take immediate measures to contain and/or extinguish the fire.
- b. As soon as possible, law enforcement agencies shall be notified to respond to the scene to investigate the nature of the fire. The law enforcement officers shall request immediate compliance with this order.
- 3. This order does not apply to the following outdoor burning activities:

- a. Firefighting training
- b. Burn operations approved by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- 4. All outdoor burning of yard trash, household paper products, bonfires, campfires, warming fires, outdoor fireplaces and chimneys, and cooking fires within said jurisdictions is prohibited unless:
 - a. authorized by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation;
 - b. for cooking of food exclusively within a contained gas or charcoal grill.
- 5. The setting of fires to any grass, brush or forest covered land, unless authorized by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, shall constitute a violation of the law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of public safety hazard posed by wildfires during the current weather conditions and the limited resources to combat potential fires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning. Accordingly, this order shall expire when the conditions are again deemed safe, upon such date as determined by the Putnam County Executive in conjunction with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Signed this the 28th day of October, 2024, at 4:00PM, in Carmel, New York.

KEVIN M. BYRNE

Putnam County Executive

October 28,2024

Date