



MEMORANDUM

Date: 4/01/2020
To: Hector Flores, County Administrator
From: Bill Van Helden, Fire Chief
Subject: Burn Ban, 2020

I am respectfully recommending that the Board consider implementing a burn ban at their next Board meeting based on the following conditions:

1. We have had several fires in the past 45 days that are typical of when we enter our "Brush Season", three of which required mutual aid from outside our County.
2. The current average KBDI index for our County is above 500 with some parts near 600.
3. In speaking with a representative from the Florida Forest Service (Rick Christman) he agreed that conditions will only get worse and he supported the burn ban.
4. Lee County has not put one in place yet, but they are considering it.
5. The impacts from COVID-19 could severely impact our staffing in the future and therefore diminish our resources.

This request is based on the aforementioned and anticipation of increased work load from both the affects of the virus in our community and the dry conditions that continue to affect our area.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY FIRE/EMS

Administration

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