



News Release

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BURN PERMITTING RESUMES IN MORE STORM-STRUCK GA COUNTIES

Burn permitting is resuming in all but six of 108 Georgia counties that were declared disaster areas following Hurricane Michael. Burn permits issued by the Georgia Forestry Commission in the remaining 11 counties are effective as of 12pm on Wednesday, October 17.

“Conditions have improved enough to resume issuing permits for all types of burning, except in Decatur, Seminole, Miller, Early, Mitchell and Baker Counties,” said Georgia Forestry Commission Chief of Protection Frank Sorrells. To aid in cleanup, the burning of hand piled natural vegetation will be permitted in those six counties, with proper notification of intent to burn to the Georgia Forestry Commission,” he said, “but prescribed and land clearing burning permits are still suspended.”

Burn permits can be obtained by logging onto GaTrees.org or by calling 1-877-OK2-BURN. The permitting suspension had been reduced to 17 counties earlier this week. Recovery efforts are continuing, with 10 Georgia Forestry Commission strike teams still working to clear debris, deliver supplies, and assist with logistics.

Sorrells said smoke management is a concern in all counties, and that burners should be cognizant and respectful about where their smoke is drifting. Numerous residents are still without power and neighbors may have windows and doors open to cool their homes.

“We still have many crews in the field, restoring power and clearing hazards, and smoke from debris burning may create a nuisance for them,” Sorrells said. “We’re making good progress and safety remains at the forefront in all our efforts.”

For more information about burn permits, safe burning, and services of the Georgia Forestry Commission, visit GaTrees.org.

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