



# Lexington County's Outdoor Burn Ordinance

Presented by:

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# Background

- Lexington County was proactive under the EAC process
- Outdoor burning contributes to  $PM_{2.5}$  and VOCs
- Lexington County accounted for 10% of all outdoor burn notices within the state
- $PM_{2.5}$  monitor within Lexington County was borderline for the NAAQS
- County Council directed staff to review the Outdoor Burn Ordinance

# Revision Process

- In-house meetings with Fire Services, Solid Waste, Public Works and DHEC
- 1<sup>st</sup> draft forwarded to Council-given direction to talk with stakeholders
- Roundtable discussion with Home Builders Association
- Personal correspondence with Council members and citizens

# Implementation

- Fire Service increased enforcement capabilities
- Public Education through local media and website
- Education/Enforcement blitz every few months
- Cross training of construction site inspectors

# Results

- Reported outdoor burns decreased by 51% during the 07/08 FY
- Decrease in wildfires by 20% during same time period
- 300% increase in citizen calls for potential violations
- 541 unauthorized burns and 53 citations issued



# Questions

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