



# *News Release*

*from Barbara J. Fiala, Broome County Executive*

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**For Immediate Release**

**April 21, 2008**

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## **Broome County Executive Barbara Fiala Declares State of Emergency: Banning Outdoor Burning**

(Binghamton, NY) At 4:45pm this afternoon Broome County Executive Barbara Fiala declared a state of emergency, banning all outdoor burning and recreational outdoor fires, effective immediately. Due to warmer temperatures and the lack of rain the region has experienced there is a significant risk for brush fires to occur. The ban does not include controlled cooking fires when the fire is in a contained in a controlled fireplace, barbecue grill or cooking pit. Those cooking outdoors must have proper extinguishment available.

“Residents should not build outdoor fires due to the dry, windy conditions that we are experiencing,” said Executive Fiala.

Brett Chellis, Director of Emergency Services said local fire departments have been on alert. “We are experiencing a lack of rain and warmer temperatures which has increased the risk for brush fires to occur. Residents should not produce outdoor fires under these conditions. ”

Local fire departments battled brush fires over the weekend but, were able to quickly contain them. Counties throughout upstate NY are issuing burn orders including: Schoharie, Saratoga and Montgomery counties. Major fires are occurring around the state.

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF BROOME

EXECUTIVE EMERGENCY ORDER

I, **Barbara J. Fiala**, **County Executive**  
of Broome County pursuant to New York State Executive Law 2B, section 24, as  
the result of a State of Emergency do hereby order:

1. A ban on all outdoor open fires except for those for cooking purposes where the fire is contained in a fireplace or cooking pit and where there is a fire extinguisher having minimum of 2-A rating or other on-site fire extinguishing equipment such as sand, dirt, water barrel, or garden hose.



*Barbara J. Fiala*

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

4/21/08

BROOME COUNTY

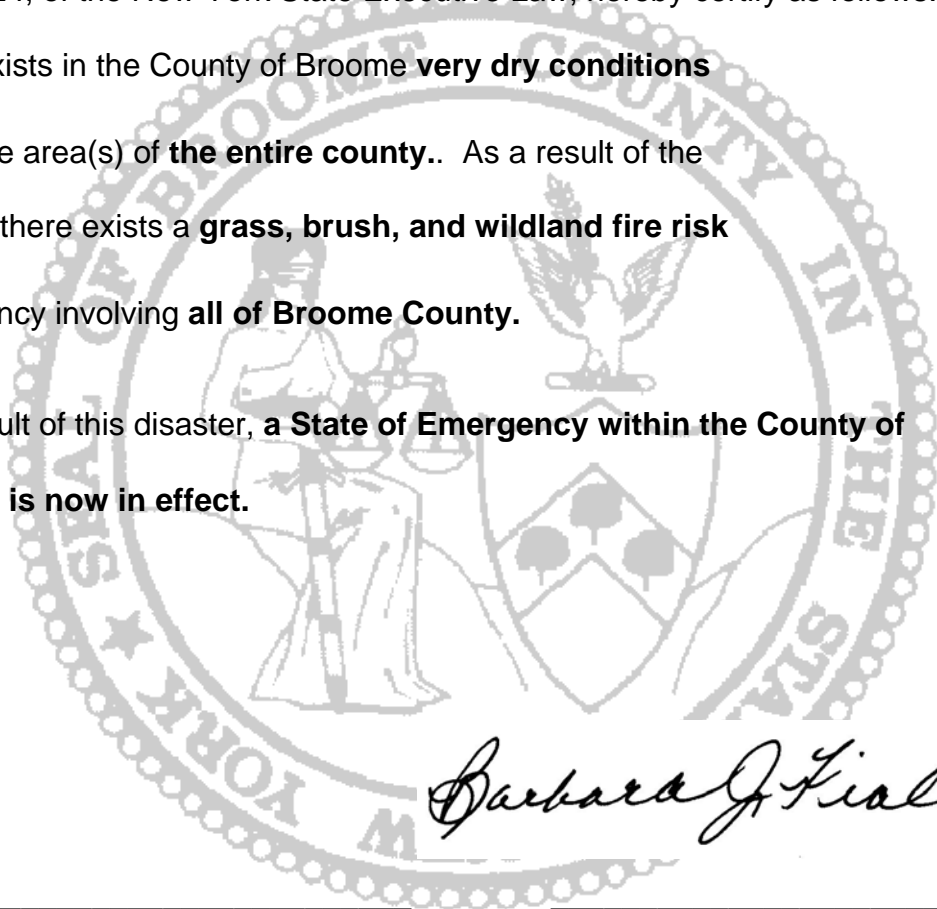
**STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF BROOME**

**DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY**

I, **Barbara J. Fiala, County Executive**, of Broome County pursuant to article 2B, section 24, of the New York State Executive Law, hereby certify as follows:

There exists in the County of Broome **very dry conditions** within the area(s) of **the entire county**.. As a result of the disaster there exists a **grass, brush, and wildland fire risk** emergency involving **all of Broome County**.

As a result of this disaster, **a State of Emergency within the County of Broome is now in effect.**



*Barbara J. Fiala*

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(Witness)

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(Signature)

Broome County Executive  
(Official Title)

\_\_\_\_\_

4/21/08

(Date)

**Broome County, NY**