



# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**                      **Contact: Jack M. Colbourn (415) 749-4900**  
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## ***Spare the Air Tonight* Season Closes on a Healthy Note**

San Francisco, CA --The wintertime *Spare the Air Tonight* season came to a healthy close on Friday, February 17, 2006. No air quality advisories were issued this winter. *Spare the Air Tonight* advisories are issued when the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) predicts unhealthful concentrations of small particle pollution.

"The primary goal of our wintertime program is to protect the public from the harmful effects of small particle pollution," said Air District Executive Officer Jack Broadbent. "Exposure to small particles like woodsmoke and soot can have a negative impact on your eyes, lungs and heart. *Spare the Air Tonight* advisories are weather dependent. This season, we were fortunate to experience weather conditions that helped keep wintertime air healthful." Broadbent added.

Last November, the Air District launched a solid public outreach program informing Bay Area residents about the significant health effects caused by small particle pollution. Because residential wood burning is the primary stationary source of small particle pollution in the wintertime, the Air District's *Spare the Air Tonight* winter campaign focused on asking the public to refrain from burning wood in fireplaces and woodstoves. While the official *Spare the Air Tonight* season has closed, the Air District reminds residents to remain diligent in their clean air choices and not burn wood.

For information about the Air District visit [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov). For air quality forecasts call 1800 HELP AIR or visit [sparetheair.org](http://sparetheair.org). For *Spare the Air Tonight* data, visit [http://www.sparetheair.org/data/pm\\_air\\_scores.htm](http://www.sparetheair.org/data/pm_air_scores.htm)

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