



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Advisory

For Immediate Release
December 20, 2006

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Spare the Air TONIGHT! Give the Gift of Clean Air Drive Less and Don't Burn Wood

It's days before Christmas and all through the neighborhood, air quality is best when we don't burn wood. For the ninth time this season, **the Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing a *Spare the Air Tonight* Advisory for this evening, Wednesday, December 20, through Thursday morning.**

"The tiny particles in wood smoke and vehicle exhaust can cause serious health problems," said Air District Executive Officer Jack Broadbent. "This holiday season give the gift of clean air to your family and your neighbors. Don't burn wood. Another way you can minimize particulate emissions is to drive less. Don't waste time getting trapped in crowded parking lots or waiting in traffic. Leave your car at home, shop online and complete your holiday errands by using public transportation," Broadbent added.

Small particle pollution is especially dangerous for the young, the elderly, and for people with respiratory or cardiovascular disease. In the wintertime, particulate pollution is most highly concentrated at night and in the early morning hours. During this recent cold snap, it's important to remember that wood burning is not an efficient way to heat your home and that it contributes to the unhealthy build-up of harmful air pollutants.

There is no free transit during the Spare the Air Tonight season.

For more information call 1-800 HELP AIR
or visit our website: www.sparetheair.org

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