

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Air District lifts Winter Spare the Air Alert

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has lifted the *Winter Spare the Air Alert* that was issued on Tuesday, February 3 and continued on Wednesday, February 4.

Bay Area residents are now allowed to burn wood in wood stoves and fireplaces.

Today, Bay Area air quality is forecast to be in the good range on the US Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index. The Air District recommends that residents burn only clean, dry wood in short, hot fires with plenty of air, in order to prevent dirty smoke from chimneys or flues.

"Rainy weather helps us clear the particulate pollution that was building over the last two days," says Lisa Fasano, communications director for the Air District. "Rain in the forecast is good for air quality."

The daily wood burning air-quality status can be found:

- o On the Air District Web sites: www.baaqmd.gov or www.sparetheair.org
- Via the toll-free hotline 1-877-4-NO-BURN (complaints can also be filed via the hotline)
- By signing up for AirAlerts at <u>www.sparetheair.org</u> or by signing up for phone alerts at 1-800-430-1515.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency chartered with protecting air quality in the Bay Area.