



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Four permissive burn seasons close for crop replacement, forest management, orchard pruning and attrition, and range management

SAN FRANCISCO - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing that the four permissible burn seasons for crop replacement, forest management, orchard pruning and attrition, and range management within the Bay Area close on Thursday, April 30.

Open burning is regulated because of its impact on air quality. Because smoke from prescribed fires can potentially contribute to unhealthy levels of fine particle pollution, BURN days will only be permitted when weather conditions are favorable for dispersal and dilution of smoke from open burning activities.

Under Air District policy, permissive BURN days are not declared when a *Winter Spare the Air Alert* or summer *Spare the Air Alert* is in effect.

Certain fires for agricultural purposes, flood control, fire training and the prevention of fire hazards, among other purposes, are allowed when weather conditions are favorable, many of them during specified periods throughout the year. Each day of the year is designated as either a BURN or a NO BURN day, and permissible fires can only be set during their established burn season on a designated BURN day.

Open burning requirements apply to the nine-county Bay Area region, including Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma counties.

The Air District's open burning regulation (Regulation 5) is available at www.baaqmd.gov. Type "Open Burning Regulation 5" into the "Search" field and the link will appear at the top of your search results page. Open burn information is also available on the Air District's toll-free number at 1-800-HELP AIR (435-7247).

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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