



NORTHERN  
SONOMA COUNTY  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

150 Matheson Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448 • PH: (707) 433-5911 • FX: (707) 433-4823

May 1, 2018

Dear Burn Permit Holder,

Enclosed is your renewed/new burn permit for the upcoming open burn season. Please review your permit for burning conditions, allowable burn hours and notification requirements. Remember that only vegetation that has been **properly dried** is allowed to be burned on permissive burn days. Burning wet/moist material generates excess smoke which is detrimental to the health and well-being of the residents of Northern Sonoma County and is in violation of the District's open burning regulation.

For the period of May 1<sup>st</sup> through September: burn times are from 6 AM until noon, and residents in CAL FIRE jurisdiction will also need a CAL FIRE "LE5" permit. CAL FIRE may be contacted at (707) 576-2285.

Remember to always burn in a safe and responsible manner. Thank you for helping make Sonoma County a healthy place to live. Please give us a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rob Bamford  
Air Pollution Control Officer / EO

*PS: Be sure to review the Open Burn Checklist, included, to help you achieve a safe and clean Open Burn event.*

# Open Burn Checklist



## Review Your Permit

California requires you to obtain a permit for open burning from your air district & to follow all applicable District and State laws for open burning and fire safety. These permits are part of local and state strategy to maintain healthful air quality. Have your permit available onsite during your burn event & remember to phone-in your burn notification before you light. The phone notification numbers are identified on your permit.

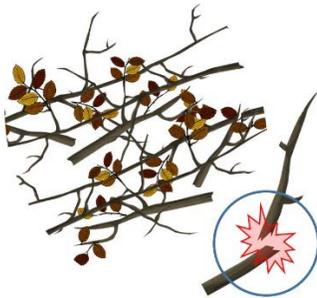
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## Evaluate the Conditions

Before you light, check the weather & your surroundings. If it is windy or overcast the smoke will not disperse in an upward plume and may impact your family, neighbors, and community. Locate your burn pile near a water source for safety, and away from nearby or overhead structures, vehicles, and neighbors. If conditions do not warrant a clean burn and meet all permit requirements the burn must be postponed.

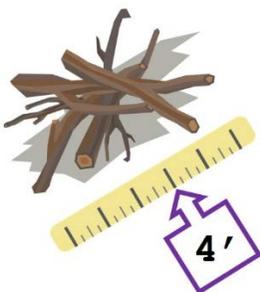
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## Review Your Burn Pile Material

You may only burn dry vegetative material from your property. Burning of trash, lumber, or other non-vegetative materials emits toxins and is prohibited. Burning wet vegetation creates excessive smoke (particulate matter) and is also prohibited. Properly dried material \*snaps\* & breaks when you bend it, or measures less than 20% moisture content with a moisture meter. Barrel burning is always prohibited.

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## Arrange Your Pile to Burn Clean

Dry, loose material that is well aerated burns hot and cleaner. Material that is too large or wet smolders and creates excessive pollution. Do not exceed a pile size greater than 4 feet across for residential burning. To eliminate large amounts of material, start a small pile, get it hot, and then feed it material rather than trying to light a large or densely-packed pile. Reduce the size of large tree limbs and chop-up stumps.

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## Plan Your Burn Event

You may only burn on a District-called burn day, during the hours listed on your permit. All open burns must be extinguished, down to coals with no smoke before the concluding burn time listed on your permit. Never leave an active fire or smoldering coals unattended. After completion of your burn, check and re-check that the fire is completely extinguished.