

How is the Burn/No-Burn Day Status Determined and Announced?

The burn day/no burn day status is not determined by the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD). There are two primary factors that are considered to determine burn day status:

1. Are atmospheric conditions such that the smoke from burning will easily rise and disperse, or will the smoke stay near the ground and potentially affect public health?
2. Are fire conditions such that the risk of an escaped control burn leading to a wildfire is too high?

If either of these factors indicate that burning could impact public health and safety, the status is determined to be No Burn Day.

If both of these factors indicate burning is not likely to impact public health and safety, the status is determined to be Permissive Burn Day.

Air Quality determinations are made by meteorologists working for the California Air Resources Board (CARB):

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm>

Fire Danger determinations are made by the Fire Marshall working for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire):

http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_protection/fire_protection_burnpermits.php

CARB meteorologists make air quality burn day determinations based on the meteorological criteria set forth in Title 17 California Code of Regulations:

- The primary criteria is a meteorological value called 500 millibar (mb) heights.
- High 500 mb height values indicate air is sinking through the air column. This tends to keep smoke near the ground.
- Low 500 mb height values indicate air is rising. This tends to cause smoke to rise and disperse.

No burn days may also be declared if:

- Significant amounts of smoke or ozone already in the air are expected to create health impacts.
- Other meteorological factors indicate smoke health impacts are likely if burning is permitted.

**Is it a Burn Day?
Here are 4 ways to find out!**

There are four ways to learn if it's a permissive Burn Day.



The most direct source:

By **Phone**: updated after 3 pm daily
West Slope: **(530) 621-5897** or **(866) 621-5897**
Lake Tahoe: **(888) 332-2876**



The following are updated after 3 pm daily:

On the **Web**:

<http://edcgov.us/AirQualityManagement/>

Click on "Burn Information" in the left-side menu
You can download a **Burn Permit Application** there too.



On **Facebook**:

www.facebook.com/EDCAQMD



On **Twitter**:

www.twitter.com/EDCAQMD, follow: @EDCAQMD

The El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Office Hours are:

Mondays – Thursdays:	7:30 AM to 5:30 PM
Fridays:	8 AM to 5 PM OPEN LUNCH

Visit our website at www.edcgov.us/AirQualityManagement
for more information on legal burning and District activities.

Thank you for working with us to improve air quality!