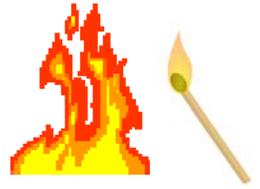


Learn Before You Burn



Fall is here and this year's fire season was particularly devastating to California's forestlands, wildlife, economy, people, and without question, its air quality. Proper clearing of vegetation around homes can help prevent and minimize wildfires in the future. Clearing of vegetation may include burning. With the opening of burn season fast approaching, the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) wishes to remind residents of the "What, When, Where and How" of proper and legal outdoor Open Burning.



Whenever you can, dispose in green waste or compost your cuttings instead of burning!

What

ONLY:

- Dry vegetation originating from the property on which it will be burned.
- If it's going to rain, cover your pile to keep it dry. Do not burn the cover.
- Don't burn just pine needles as they will only smolder. Add wood to heat the fire

When

ONLY:

- On designated Burn Days (call the BURN LINE!)
- When local weather conditions are appropriate.
- With a valid Burn Permit from AQMD (for piles greater than 4ft x 4ft).
- And/or a Burn Permit from your local fire protection district or CalFire if required.



BURN DAY
Information Lines

West Slope:
530-621-5897 or
866-621-5897

South Lake Tahoe:
530-621-5842 or
866-332-2876

Where

ONLY:

- On the property from which the dry vegetation originated.
- In an area where it's safe to burn, away from other combustibles, with an adequate water supply and means to contact emergency personnel.



How

ONLY:

- In accordance with Air District Rule 300 Open Burning.
- In accordance with any other applicable requirements from your local fire protection district, CalFire, or US Forest Service. (CalFIRE (530) 644-2345)

Smoke nuisance complaints are the most common complaints AQMD receives during burn season. While you are allowed to burn vegetation under certain conditions, you do not have a right to inundate your neighbors with smoke and cause a nuisance. The information above and at the Air District's Open Burning website: [https://edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Pages/burn_information_\(outdoor\).aspx](https://edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Pages/burn_information_(outdoor).aspx) is intended to help residents burn properly and avoid creating a nuisance and degrading air quality.

As a reminder, the California Health & Safety Code Section 42400 gives AQMD the authority to levy fines to persons who violate District Rules, including Rule 300 Open Burning. The District also has a compliance course that violators may be required to complete.