

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit

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San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties Burn Permit Suspension Lifted

Felton, CA- Effective Monday, November 9, 2015 at 8 a.m. the burn permit suspension in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties will be lifted. CAL FIRE San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit Chief Scott Jalbert is formally cancelling the burn permit suspension and advises that those possessing current and valid agriculture and residential burn permits can now resume burning on permissible burn days. During the Backyard Burn Season, burn permits are not required by CAL FIRE, but may be required by Air Quality. The Backyard Burn Season does not begin until December 1, 2015.

CAL FIRE burn permits will be required until the end of peak fire season. While cooler temperatures have helped to diminish the threat of wildfire, we are still in our fourth year of drought. Property owners and residents are asked to use caution while conducting debris or agriculture burns. Always use caution when burning, follow all guidelines provided, and maintain control of the fire at all times. Individuals can be held civilly and/or criminally liable for allowing a fire to escape their control and/or burn onto neighboring property.

Residents with valid burn permits wishing to burn MUST verify it is a permissive burn day prior to burning. For more information on how you can help spare the air in San Mateo County you can contact the Bay Area Air Quality Management District at 415-771-6000 or www.baaqmd.gov. For information in Santa Cruz County contact Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District at 831-647-9411 or www.mbuapcd.org.

Pile Burning Requirements

- Only dry, natural vegetative material such as brush and tree trimmings may be burned.
- The burning of trash, painted wood or other debris is not allowed.
- Do **NOT** burn on windy days.
- Piles should be no larger than four feet in diameter and in height. You can add to pile as it burns down.
- Clear a 10 foot diameter down to bare soil around your piles.
- Have a shovel and a water source nearby.
- An adult is required to be in attendance of the fire at all times.

Safe residential pile burning of forest residue by landowners is a crucial tool in reducing fire hazards. State, Federal and Local land management and fire agencies will also be utilizing this same window of opportunity to conduct prescribed burns aimed at reducing fuel accumulations and improving forest health on private and public lands.

For more information on burning, visit the CAL FIRE website at www.fire.ca.gov/czu.

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