

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit



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**RELEASE**  
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### **CAL FIRE Suspends Outdoor Residential Burning**

**FELTON** – As drought conditions continue to increase fire danger in the region, CAL FIRE has suspended all burn permits for outdoor open residential burning within the State Responsibility Area of San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties. This suspension takes effect on June 29, 2015 and bans all residential outdoor burning of landscape debris including branches and leaves.

San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit Chief Scott Jalbert would like to remind everyone “All residents need to be “Ready” by maintaining 100 feet of Defensible Space around their home by removing all dead or dying grass and brush.”

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](http://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](http://www.mbuapcd.org).

“With record-setting drought conditions we must take every step possible to prevent new wildfires from starting,” said Chief Ken Pimlott, CAL FIRE director. “One Less Spark, means One Less Wildfire.”

Similar to last year, CAL FIRE has already responded to significantly more wildfires than the average. CAL FIRE is asking residents to ensure that they are prepared for wildfires including maintaining a minimum of 100 feet of Defensible Space around every home.

Here are some tips to help prepare your home and property:

- Clear all dead or dying vegetation 100 feet around all structures.
- Landscape with fire resistant/drought tolerant plants
- Find alternative ways to dispose of landscape debris like chipping or hauling it to a biomass energy facility

The department may issue restricted temporary burning permits if there is an essential reason due to public health, safety. Agriculture, land management, fire training, and other industrial-type burning may proceed if a CAL FIRE official inspects the burn site and issues a special permit.

Campfires within organized campgrounds or on private property that are otherwise permitted will be allowed if the campfire is maintained in such a manner as to prevent its spread to the wildland.

For additional information on preparing for and preventing wildfires visit [www.ReadyForWildfire.org](http://www.ReadyForWildfire.org).

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