



**Date:** October 30, 2015  
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## **Residential Wood Burning Restrictions Begin November 1 - Download Sacramento Region Air Quality App to Get Burn Status**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (Oct. 30, 2015) – The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District’s annual wood burning law, Check Before You Burn, begins this Sunday, November 1. To protect public health, it is illegal to burn any solid fuel, including wood, pellets or manufactured firelogs when particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5) pollution is forecast to be high.

This law applies to residents and businesses in Sacramento County and the cities of Folsom, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento through February. You must Check Before You Burn to find out if burning is allowed in your indoor or outdoor fireplace, wood stove, firepit or chiminea.

New to this year’s Check Before You Burn season is the Sacramento Region Air Quality app. With this free app, which is available for Android, iOS and Windows mobile devices, Sacramento County residents can check the daily burn status, obtain the daily air quality forecast and get current conditions at monitoring sites in the region.

Wood smoke contains invisible particles that are small enough to enter the bloodstream. Breathing wood smoke increases the risk of asthma, heart attack, stroke and many other health problems. It is especially harmful for children whose lungs are still developing, older adults and anyone with a pre-existing heart or lung condition.

In addition to the mobile app, residents can get the daily burn status in these ways:

- Call 1-877-NO-BURN-5 (1-877-662-8765)
- Follow on Twitter (@AQMD)
- “Like” Spare The Air Scooter on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/scooterthesparetheairdog](http://www.facebook.com/scooterthesparetheairdog))
- Visit [www.AirQuality.org](http://www.AirQuality.org) or [www.SpareTheAir.com](http://www.SpareTheAir.com)
- Sign up for daily Air Alert emails at [www.SpareTheAir.com](http://www.SpareTheAir.com). Input your zip code and select the “Daily Air Quality Forecast” box.
- Read The Sacramento Bee’s weather page

The law applies to all Sacramento residents and businesses with these few exceptions:

- Homes where wood burning is the sole source of heat

**- MORE -**



- Financial hardship waiver *approved and renewed each burn season* by the Air Pollution Control Officer
- There is an exemption on Stage 1 – No Burn days if you use an EPA certified fireplace insert or stove, or pellet stove, and they do not emit visible smoke

To report a complaint, call 1-800-880-9025. First time violations will result in a \$50 fine or the violator can choose to complete and pass a wood smoke awareness course. For more information, visit [airquality.org](http://airquality.org).

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