



**Date:** October 30, 2017  
**Contact:** Sac Metro AQMD Media Line  
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**Residential Wood Burning Restrictions Start November 1 in Sacramento County, Folsom, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The 11<sup>th</sup> Check Before You Burn season starts on Wednesday, November 1 and runs through February. The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will restrict or prohibit burning any solid fuel, including wood, pellets or manufactured firelogs on days when fine particle pollution is forecast to be high.

The program’s purpose is to **prevent** unhealthy air quality in our communities when weather conditions are expected to trap pollution close to the ground. To know if it’s legal to burn in your indoor or outdoor fireplace, wood stove, firepit or chiminea, you must Check Before You Burn.

This law applies to residents and businesses in Sacramento County including those in the cities of Folsom, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento.

Download the free **Sacramento Region Air Quality app** to check the daily burn status or:

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

If wood burning is your sole source of heat or if you have received an approved financial hardship waiver from Sac Metro AQMD, you may use your wood burning device on a Stage 1 or Stage 2 day. Both the sole source exemption request form and hardship waiver are available at [www.AirQuality.org](http://www.AirQuality.org) or by calling 1-800-880-9025. In addition, those with EPA-certified fireplace inserts or wood stoves or pellet stoves may use their devices on Stage 1 days provided they do not emit visible smoke.

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

To report a complaint, call 1-800-880-9025. First time violations will result in a \$50 fine or the option to pass a wood smoke awareness exam. For more information, visit [www.AirQuality.org](http://www.AirQuality.org).

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