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Check Before You Burn

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It's that time of year! Check Before You Burn is in effect from November 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017 in Sacramento County and the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento.

Please help the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District get the word out to your colleagues about this law to reduce pollution from wood smoke. For a free supply of brochures or fact sheets, please email Lori Kobza at lkobza@airquality.org.

While we often associate winter time with a warm burning fire, the impacts of wood burning on air quality are often forgotten. People don't realize that 50% of the particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution in Sacramento County during the winter comes from residential wood burning. It poses a significant public health risk especially to children and the elderly. On cold days with no wind or rain, this pollution gets trapped closer to the ground, which creates greater health impacts on the entire community.

The Check Before You Burn program has four categories:

1. Legal to Burn
2. Burning Discouraged: Participation is voluntary, but highly advised for health purposes
3. Stage 1 No Burn Unless Exempt: Illegal to burn unless EPA certified fireplace inserts or stoves, or pellet stoves are used and they don't emit visible smoke
4. Stage 2 All Burning Prohibited: Illegal to burn any solid fuel (wood, pellets, and manufactured logs)



Think twice before lighting a fire, and be sure to Check Before You Burn. It's the law.

Visit: <http://www.sparetheair.com/burncheck.cfm> or download the FREE Sacramento Region Air Quality App today!

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CalEEMod 2016

The California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) released CalEEMod version 2016.3.1 in mid-October; which was the result of a upgrade process that began in February 2015. CAPCOA worked with a new firm, Trinity Consultants, to build on the model development work previously completed by ENVIRON.

Although the CalEEMod [website](#) provides the top ten revisions to the 2016 version, the most impactful revisions include the incorporation of EMFAC2014 emissions factors and the 2013 updates to Title 24, Part 6, Building Energy Efficiency standards, and the correction of multiple mitigation measures' calculation methodologies. It is important to also note that CalEEMod now offers a fleet mix tab that can be tailored to each land use and tabs for common stationary source equipment to be included in the analysis. Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) staff caution against using/modifying the data in these tabs without first consulting with the lead agency and the SMAQMD.



SMAQMD provides tips for using CalEEMod to highlight specific preferences for model users preparing air quality analysis for projects within the boundaries of Sacramento County. The tips can be downloaded from the SMAQMD's [website](#).

General CalEEMod questions can be directed to Karen Huss at khuss@airquality.org or 916-874-4881. Report feedback regarding errors encountered while using the model or suggestions for improvements and future upgrades via email to inquiry@caleemod.com.

Streamlining Construction Mitigation

When a Lead Agency is considering mitigation for construction emissions from a land use or transportation project, the SMAQMD not only provides [recommended mitigation language](#), but also provides tools for a project owner and its construction companies to demonstrate the mitigation measures are being implemented. Construction companies familiar with the SMAQMD's construction mitigation program often use two or three separate spreadsheets to report fleet information and calculate emissions for a project. SMAQMD staff with the technical assistance of Ramboll Environ, have streamlined these old spreadsheets into one tool that should save construction companies and SMAQMD staff time in preparing and reviewing the project for mitigation compliance. The new tool will be available for use by **January 1, 2017** on the SMAQMD's [website](#).





Palidin Awarded for Transportation & Air Quality Efforts

The Sacramento County Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) encourages businesses to join its Sustainable Business (SB) Program. BERC's 10th annual SB Awards event held in September brought together environmental compliance agencies and local business representatives to showcase six outstanding sustainable businesses in the Sacramento region. BERC would like to spotlight one of those businesses recognized, Palidin Private Security, for its transportation and air quality efforts.

Palidin Private Security is one of the top private security organizations in the Sacramento region, operating 24/7. Along with keeping communities safe, Palidin is doing its part to improve Sacramento's air quality by reducing emissions from its vehicle fleet. Beginning in 2007, Palidin transitioned from traditional fuels for its fleet to compressed natural gas (CNG) as its primary fuel. Currently more than 90% of its Ford Crown Victoria fleet, including 70 vehicles operate using CNG. Additionally, Palidin has an on-site CNG fueling station. Vehicle monitoring is essential for Palidin's emission reduction success, including minimizing vehicle idling, performing on-site tire pressure checks, and trip monitoring to minimize multiple outings. Palidin's employees play a big role. Employees are encouraged to bike or use light rail for commuting. Also, Palidin offers fleet bicycles for employees stationed at Raley Field to minimize emissions from single occupant vehicle trips.



Palidin Private Security is dedicated to reducing its air quality impacts. The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District recognizes the importance of businesses like Palidin in meeting its clean air goals.

BERC reaches out to businesses and provides information and encouragement through its SB Program. More information on the SB Program can be found at www.sacberc.org/SASB.

COMING SOON: Draft local guidance for addressing the U.S. EPA's recently released recommendations for roadside vegetative barriers. The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District is working with the Sacramento Tree Foundation with input from area agencies to provide best practices on this topic!

