



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS CONDUCTING RESIDENTIAL/DOORYARD BURNING

The Butte County Air Quality Management District, in cooperation with local fire protection agencies, provides the following information on residential/dooryard burning requirements as a public service. Residential/dooryard burning refers to the burning of wastes at a residence in the open air and **does not** include burning in fireplaces and wood stoves within the residence.

Requirements are included for all areas of Butte County, including the Cities of Biggs, Chico, Gridley, Oroville, Paradise and areas of Butte County that are within the Lassen and Plumas National Forests. Persons burning residential waste should read and keep this summary for future reference. For more information please contact your local Fire Department or Butte County Air Quality Management District at 530-891-2882 (or toll-free 888-891-2882).

### AIR QUALITY

Burning is only allowed on **Permissible Burn Days**. The residential burn line **896-2537 (or toll free 866-240-0859)** is updated Monday through Friday at 4:30 p.m. if the following day's burn day status is favorable. On Sunday and Monday and on days when the forecast is unfavorable, the burn day status will be updated at 8:45 a.m. Burn day information is also provided to local radio stations and newspapers. **Do not call your local Fire Department for burn day information.**

Transporting vegetation to another location to be burned is prohibited; vegetation may only be burned within the boundaries of the property where it was grown. The use of burn barrels is prohibited unless you live in an exempt area. Two exempt areas exist in Butte County. Please contact the District office for more information or check the District website ([www.bcaqmd.org](http://www.bcaqmd.org)) to view maps of the locations of exempt areas.

**It is illegal to burn any of the following non-vegetative materials:** paper products including cardboard, painted/treated lumber, garbage, tires, trash, plastic, metal, rubber, cotton, wool, petroleum products, paint, other similar smoke or toxic-fume producing items, fireworks, and/or any other material restricted by other federal, state, or local code, regulation or law.

**Do not burn wet or green vegetation.** All vegetation must be dry, not covered with dirt, and loosely stacked to **allow air to circulate freely** so that smoke production will be minimized.

Burning shall not be conducted when weather conditions may cause smoke from the burn to enter onto ANY adjacent residences where there are persons residing such as to create a **nuisance**. Questions regarding air quality requirements should be directed to the Butte County Air Quality Management District, 891-2882 (toll-free 888-891-2882).

### **FIRE SAFETY**

You are cautioned that reasonable prudence requires careful consideration of time, weather, place of starting fire, size of area and condition of material to be burned, condition of firebreaks, number of adult persons required for control, and adequate fire fighting tools. Do not burn unless weather conditions, particularly winds, are such that burning can be considered safe. A responsible person must be in attendance at all times. Adequate water supply must be available on site to control the burn pile or potential escapes. The property owner and/or person(s) conducting the burn are strictly liable for any damages from fire and are responsible for smoke impacts and public nuisance.

### **BUTTE COUNTY RESIDENTS IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS:**

**Responsible fire agencies are:**

**Butte County Fire Rescue/California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL-FIRE) phone number 538-7111.**

**United States Forest Service (USFS) District Office at Oroville phone number 534-6500.**

**USFS Office at Butte Meadows phone number 873-0580.**

**Fire Agency Permits** are required from May 1 to the end of declared fire season annually (not valid during burn ban, typically July 1 to November 1). No permit is required from the end of the declared fire season to April 30. No fee required. Fire Agency Permits are available at Butte County Fire Stations/CAL Fire, USFS District Office at Oroville, and USFS District Office at Butte Meadows.

**Burn Hours:** 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. from May 1 to June 30.

**Pile Size:** 4-foot diameter maximum and 10-foot clearance when burn permits are required. Although there are no restrictions on pile size when burn permits are not required, typically November 1 to April 30, Cal-Fire suggests residential/dooryard piles remain limited to 4-foot diameter maximum.

**CITY OF CHICO:**

**Responsible fire agency is City of Chico Fire Department.**

**Phone number 897-3400 or 897-4900 (after hours).** No residential/dooryard burning allowed.

**CITY OF BIGGS:**

**Responsible fire agency is City of Biggs Fire Department/California Department of Forestry (CAL-Fire). Phone number 868-5834.**

**Permits** required year round. No fee required. Available at Biggs Fire Station, 434 "B" Street.

**Burn Hours** 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. May 1 through October 31 and 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. November 1 through April 30.

**Pile Size** 4-foot diameter maximum and 10 foot clearance is required.

**CITY OF GRIDLEY:**

**Responsible fire agency is City of Gridley Fire Department/California Department of Forestry (CAL-FIRE). Phone number 846-2470 or 846-5711.**

**Permits** required year round. No fee required. Available at Butte County/Gridley City Fire Station #74, 47 East Gridley Road.

**Burn Hours** June 1 – October 31: 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., Nov 1 – May 31: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Pile Size** 4 foot diameter maximum and 10 foot clearance required.

**CITY OF OROVILLE:**

**Responsible fire agency is City of Oroville Fire Department. Phone number 538-2480.**

**Permits (not Agricultural)** valid for one calendar year, except during burn ban (June 1 through October 31 annually). \$10.86 fee, available at Oroville Fire Station, 2055 Lincoln Street, or at Oroville City Hall, 1735 Montgomery Street 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Burn Hours** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. May 1 to May 31. No restrictions November 1 to April 30.

**Pile Size** 4 foot diameter maximum and 10 foot clearance required.

**Wind Speed** No burning if wind speed is measured to be greater than 10 miles per hour.

**El Medio Fire Protection District (SOUTH OROVILLE AREA) excluding City of Oroville incorporated area:**

**Responsible fire agency is El Medio Fire Department. Phone number 533-4484.**

**Permits** required year round. \$10.00 fee, available at El Medio Fire Station, 3515 Myers, Oroville.

**Burn Hours** 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Pile Size** 4 foot diameter maximum and 10 foot clearance required.

**TOWN OF PARADISE:**

**Responsible fire agency is Paradise Fire Department. Phone number 872-6206.**

**Permit Required**, Valid during burn season March 1 through May 31 except during burn ban, typically June 1 through October 31. Specific dates for a special fall burn period have yet to be determined. A \$24.64 fee, available at Paradise Fire Station Number 1.

**Permit Conditions; No Burning Allowed, except during the months of March and April**

Burning allowed **east of Clark Road 1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>** of each burn season month, burning allowed **west of Clark Road 16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>** of each burn season month. **Fall burn period has not yet been determined.**

**Burn Hours** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Pile Size** 6-foot diameter maximum and 10 foot clearance minimum required.