



It is illegal to burn wood during  
a *Winter Spare the Air Alert*.  
Check before you burn.



Call 1-877-4NO-BURN  
(1-877-466-2876)

Sign up for phone alerts  
by calling 1-800-430-1515



Visit [sparetheair.org](http://sparetheair.org) or  
[baaqmd.gov](http://baaqmd.gov)

Connect with us:



Sign up for automatic  
email alerts by visiting  
[sparetheair.org](http://sparetheair.org)

From November 1 through the end of February, the use of fireplaces, pellet stoves, wood stoves, fireplace inserts and outdoor fire pits is illegal when air quality is expected to reach unhealthy levels. Each day by 2 p.m., the Air District will issue an air quality forecast for the next day. If air quality is forecast to be unhealthy, a *Winter Spare the Air Alert* will be called, and wood burning will be banned the entire next day, for a full 24 hours.

First-time violators of the Wood Burning Rule can now take a wood smoke awareness class, online or by mail, or pay a \$100 ticket. Warning letters have been discontinued. Second violations will result in a \$500 ticket and subsequent ticket amounts will increase.



Wood smoke is the #1  
source of wintertime  
air pollution



1 in 7 Bay Area  
residents has a  
respiratory condition

### Health Effects of Wood Smoke

Smoke from wood-burning fireplaces and stoves contains tiny particles that can linger in the air and are so small that our bodies' natural defenses cannot filter them out. Instead, we inhale them deeply into our lungs, and they can enter the bloodstream.

Cold and still winter weather conditions can cause wood smoke pollution to become trapped close to the ground and build up to unhealthy levels, making it difficult for people with asthma and other respiratory conditions to breathe.

Wood smoke is linked to illnesses such as asthma, bronchitis and lung disease, and is especially harmful for children and the elderly.

#### TO REGISTER A WOOD BURNING COMPLAINT:

- Go to [www.baaqmd.gov/complaints](http://www.baaqmd.gov/complaints)
- Call 1-877-4NO-BURN

[www.sparetheair.org/winter](http://www.sparetheair.org/winter)