

For Immediate Release  
November 6, 2007

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## *Spare the Air* TONIGHT! Air Quality Forecast to be Unhealthy

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) is issuing a ***Spare the Air Tonight* Advisory for this evening, Tuesday, November 6, 2007, through tomorrow morning.** Because concentrations of particulate pollution are forecast to reach unhealthy levels, the Air District is asking Bay Area residents **to not burn wood and to limit their driving** tonight and tomorrow morning.

***There is no free transit during the Spare the Air Tonight season.***

The Air District issues a Spare the Air Tonight advisory whenever air quality is expected to exceed federal health standards. Last year, after extensive research into the health effects of fine particle pollution, the U.S. EPA dramatically strengthened the federal 24-hour average fine particulate standard. This standard was exceeded on 20 days last winter.

The tiny particles in wood smoke and vehicle exhaust can cause serious health problems. Due to their small size they can be inhaled deep into the lungs. Fine particle pollution represents a health hazard for the general public, and is especially dangerous for the very young, the elderly, and for people with respiratory or cardiovascular disease.

"There is increasing scientific evidence that particulate matter poses a significant health threat to the public," Air District Executive Officer Jack P. Broadbent declared. "Wood burning is the largest single source of wintertime particulate pollution in the Bay Area, and the easiest for residents to control."

The Air District is currently circulating a draft regulation to reduce particulate pollution from wood stoves and fireplaces. The agency is conducting a series of public workshops to review and discuss the draft regulation at the dates, times, and locations on the next page.

## Wood Burning Regulation Workshops

<b>Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1-3 pm</b> Metropolitan Transportation Commission Metrocenter Auditorium 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, 94607	<b>Thursday, Nov. 8, 1-3 pm</b> Steele Lane Community Center Dohn Room 415 Steele Lane Santa Rosa, 95403	<b>Wednesday, Nov. 14, 6-8 pm</b> San Jose State University Costanoan Room One Washington Square, San Jose, 95192
<b>Thursday, Nov. 15, 6-8 pm</b> Ramada Inn 1000 Admiral Callaghan Lane Vallejo, 94591	<b>Thursday, Nov. 15, 1-3 pm</b> Holiday Inn 1050 Burnett Avenue, Concord, 94520	<b>Friday, Nov. 16, 1-3 pm</b> Seaport Conference Center 459 Seaport Court Redwood City, 94063
<b>Monday, Nov. 26, 6-8 pm</b> Robert Livermore Community Center Cresta Blanca Room 4444 East Avenue Livermore, 94550		

For more information please visit our websites at: [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov) and [www.sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org)

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