



NEWS

www.baaqmd.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 15, 2009

CONTACT: Aaron Richardson
415.749.4900

Permissive burn season closes for Fall Marsh Management fires

SAN FRANCISCO - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the close of the permissible burn season for fall Marsh Management within the Bay Area effective Thursday, October 15, 2009.

Set for the purpose of improving lowland and marsh areas for wildlife, marsh management fires can only take place on a pre-designated burn day during the permissible burn season as determined by the Air District. For additional information about marsh management requirements at the Air District, please call Air Quality Specialist Janet Simon at (415) 749-4780.

Open burning is regulated because of its impact on air quality. Certain fires for agricultural purposes, flood control, fire training and the prevention of fire hazards, among other purposes, are allowed during specified periods throughout the year. Each day of the year is designated as either a BURN or a NO BURN day, and permissible fires can only be set during their established burn season on a designated BURN day.

Under Air District policy, permissive BURN days will not be declared when a *Winter Spare the Air Alert* is in effect. Open burning requirements apply to the entire nine-county Bay Area, including Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma counties.

The Air District's open burning regulation (Regulation 5) is available at www.baaqmd.gov. Select "Rules and Regulations" in the drop-down menu under the "Work" portal. Open burn information is also available on the Air District's toll-free number at 1-800-HELP AIR (435-7247).

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the regional agency chartered with protecting air quality in the Bay Area. For more information, visit www.baaqmd.gov.

###