



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: Aaron Richardson**  
**415.749.4900**

## **Permissive burn season closes for stubble and straw fires**

**SAN FRANCISCO** - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announces the close of the permissible burn season for stubble and straw fires within the Bay Area effective Friday, December 31, 2010.

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, many of them 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](http://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 nine-county Bay Area. For more information, visit [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov).

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