



This Advisory is provided to inform you about activities of the Air District which may affect your operation. It is intended to assist you in your effort to achieve and maintain compliance with applicable air pollution regulations.

ATTENTION: NEW HOME BUILDERS AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS

SUBJECT: NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR WOOD-BURNING DEVICE SALES AND INSTALLATIONS

On July 9, 2008 the Bay Area Air quality Management District (Air District) adopted Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-burning Devices to reduce harmful particulate matter (PM) from wood-burning devices, including indoor and outdoor fireplace and wood-burning stoves. In order to decrease air pollution this regulation prohibits the burning of any solid fuels such as wood during a *Winter Spare the Air Alert*. This regulation has other requirements that may affect your industry or business as described in this advisory.

If you are a builder of homes or commercial buildings or install new or used wood-burning devices then you must do the following beginning January 1, 2009:

1. Only install the following devices (Reg 6-3-304):
 - Gas fueled or electric powered fireplaces, fireplace inserts or stoves; or
 - U.S. EPA Phase II certified wood-burning devices; or
 - Pellet-fueled devices.


2. If the device is a wood-burning device, then provide public awareness information in the form of pamphlets, brochures or fact sheets to the customer that explains the following (Reg 6-3-402):
 - Proper installation, operation (including no use during a *Winter Spare the Air Alert*) and maintenance of the wood burning device;
 - Health effects of wood smoke which must include the following statement: **“Wood smoke contains harmful particulate matter (PM) which is associated with numerous negative health effects.”**
 - Public awareness information that meets these requirement are available from the Air District to assist you in compliance with this regulation.

The microscopic pollutants in wood smoke can easily bypass the body's natural defenses and penetrate deeply into the lungs. Prolonged exposure to the fine particulates in wood smoke has been linked to a series of public health concerns, including:


- aggravated asthma;
- development of chronic bronchitis;
- irregular heartbeats and nonfatal heart attacks; and
- increased mortality rates.

For more information regarding the specifics of the Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-burning Devices please go to www.baaqmd.gov for more information.

If you have any further needs, please call the District at the following numbers.

 For questions about this advisory contact Eric Pop, Air Quality Specialist at epop@baaqmd.gov or (415) 749-5172.

 For a copy of the above listed rule, see www.baaqmd.gov/dst/regulations/index.htm.

 For compliance assistance, call (415) 749-4999, the Compliance Counselor Hotline.

Kelly J. Wee
Director of Compliance and Enforcement
Bay Area Air Quality Management District