

# STOP BURNING IN OUR COMMUNITY



## All Burning Negatively Impacts You and Your Neighbors

**BREATHING SMOKE HAS IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM HEALTH EFFECTS**

**1 in 7**  
**BAY AREA RESIDENTS SUFFER FROM A RESPIRATORY ILLNESS**

Children, older adults, and people with heart or lung disease are at a greater risk.



Warm air traps cold air and smoke near ground level and impacts the health of you and your neighbors. Up to 40 percent of pollution in winter months can come from wood smoke causing a brown haze and health effects in the surrounding community.

**INDOOR AND OUTDOOR BURNING IS ILLEGAL WHEN A SPARE THE AIR ALERT – BURN BAN IS IN EFFECT.**

### INDOOR BURNING

Fireplaces do not efficiently heat your home. The Air District encourages residents to use efficient heating devices (electric heater, high-efficiency heat pump).



### OUTDOOR & BACKYARD BURNING

Recreational burning in backyard firepits and chimeneas can cause a smoky haze in the neighborhood which has negative health impacts on you, your neighbors and the region's air quality.



### WHAT ARE SPARE THE AIR ALERTS?

**SPARE THE AIR ALERTS** are triggered when air quality is forecast to be unhealthy and wood burning may be illegal. Find out if a burn ban is in effect: 1-877-4NO-BURN (1-877-466-2876) [www.sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org)



File a wood smoke or general air quality complaint: [baaqmd.gov/complaints](http://baaqmd.gov/complaints)



**West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project**  
*know which way the wind blows*

[www.woeip.org](http://www.woeip.org)



**IT IS ALWAYS ILLEGAL TO BURN PAINTED OR TREATED WOOD, PARTICLE BOARD, PLASTICS, WRAPPING PAPER, GREEN WASTE, OR OTHER GARBAGE. ILLEGAL BURNING CAN RESULT IN A VIOLATION.**

**KEEP YOUR HOME HEAT EFFICIENT. FIND WEATHERIZATION TIPS HERE:**

Environmental Protection Agency  
[EPA.gov/burnwise](http://EPA.gov/burnwise)

California Public Utilities Commission  
[CPUC.ca.gov](http://CPUC.ca.gov)

PG&E  
 Search "energy reduction and weatherization" at [PGE.com](http://PGE.com)

**BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

For more information, contact the Air District at 415-749-4999.

[www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)