

NEWS

www.baaqmd.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 28, 2009

CONTACT: Aaron Richardson

415.749.4900

Permissive burn seasons close for Crop Replacement, Forest Management, Orchard Pruning and Attrition, and Range Management

SAN FRANCISCO - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the close of the permissible burn seasons for Crop Replacement, Forest Management, Orchard Pruning and Attrition, and Range Management within the Bay Area effective Thursday, April 30, 2009.

Crop Replacement, Forest Management, Orchard Pruning and Attrition, and Range Management fires can only take place on a burn day during the permissible burn season as determined by the Air District.

For additional information about crop replacement, forest management, orchard pruning and attrition, and range management requirements at the Air District, please call Air Quality Specialist Janet Simon at (415) 749-4780.

Open burning is regulated because of its potential 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. 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) can be downloaded at www.baaqmd.gov. Follow the link to "Open Burn Status" under "Air Status / Technical Data." 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 public agency that regulates stationary sources of air pollution in the nine Bay Area counties.