



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: SELLERS, MANUFACTURERS AND INSTALLERS OF NEW AND USED HEARTH PRODUCTS AND WOOD STOVES

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 fireplaces 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*. Please go to www.sparetheair.org or call 1-877-4NO-BURN for current *Winter Spare the Air Alert* status. This regulation has other requirements that may affect your industry or business as described in this advisory.

If you are a person who manufactures, sells, offers for sale, resells, supplies, installs or transfers new or used wood-burning devices then you must do the following beginning January 1, 2009:

1. Sell or install only EPA-certified wood-burning and pellet-fueled devices for use within the Air District (a map of the Air District's jurisdiction is available on our website.) Gas-fueled fireplaces and logs, gas inserts, and electrical fireplaces are also allowed. *There is no requirement for owners to replace existing fireplaces or woodstoves when a house or property is sold or transferred* (Reg 6-3-303).
2. Provide awareness information in the form of pamphlet, brochure or fact sheet to the customer that explains the following:
 - Proper installation, operation (including prohibition of burning use during a *Winter Spare the Air Alert*) and maintenance of the wood burning device (Reg 6-3-402);
 - Health effects of wood smoke including the following statement: **"Wood smoke contains harmful particulate matter (PM) which is associated with numerous negative health effects."** (Reg 6-3-402);
 - Provide documentation that any wood-burning device sold is EPA-certified (Reg 6-3-403).

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.

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Bay Area Air Quality Management District