



El Dorado County Air Quality Management District  
 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667  
 Ph: 530-621-7501 / Fax: 530-295-2774  
 aqmd@edcgov.us

# Learn Before You Burn



Proper clearing of vegetation around homes can help prevent and minimize the risk of wildfires. Cleared vegetation can be removed as green waste or composted. If you must burn, the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) wishes to remind residents of the “What, When, Where and How” of proper and legal outdoor Open Burning.



## What

- Dry vegetation originating from the property on which it will be burned.
- If it’s going to rain, cover your pile to keep it dry. Do not burn the cover!
- Don’t burn only pine needles as they will smolder, add wood for heat.

## When

- On designated Burn Days (call the BURN LINE first!)
- When local weather conditions are appropriate.
- With an AQMD Burn Permit (for piles greater than 4ft x 4ft).
- With a Burn Permit from local fire district or CalFIRE if required.



**BURN DAY**  
Information Lines

**West Slope:**  
530-621-5897 or  
866-621-5897

**South Lake Tahoe:**  
530-621-5842 or  
866-332-2876

## Where

- On the property from which the dry vegetation originated.
- In areas where it’s safe to burn, away from combustibles, with an adequate water supply and means to contact emergency personnel



## How

- In accordance with Air District Rule 300 Open Burning.
- In accordance with any other applicable requirements from your local fire protection district, CalFIRE, or US Forest Service. (CalFIRE (530) 644-2345)

Smoke nuisance complaints are the most common complaints AQMD receives during burn season. While you are allowed to burn vegetation under certain conditions, you do not have a right to inundate your neighbors with smoke and cause a nuisance. Visit the District’s webpage for more information:  
[http://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Burn\\_Information\\_\(Outdoor\).aspx](http://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Burn_Information_(Outdoor).aspx) .

California Health & Safety Code Section 42400 gives AQMD the authority to levy monetary fines to persons who violate District Rules, including Rule 300 Open Burning. The District also has a compliance course that violators may have the option to complete.

# Is it a Burn Day?

## Here are 4 ways to find out!

There are four ways to learn if it's a permissive Burn Day.



The most direct source:

By **Phone**: updated after 3 pm daily  
West Slope: **(530) 621-5897** or **(866) 621-5897**  
Lake Tahoe: **(888) 332-2876**



The following are updated after 3 pm daily:

On the **Web**:

<http://edcgov.us/AirQualityManagement/>

Click on “Burn Information” in the left-side menu  
You can download a **Burn Permit Application** there too.



On **Facebook**:

[www.facebook.com/EDCAQMD](http://www.facebook.com/EDCAQMD)



On **Twitter**:

[www.twitter.com/EDCAQMD](http://www.twitter.com/EDCAQMD), follow: @EDCAQMD

The El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Office Hours are:

Mondays – Thursdays: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
Fridays: 8 AM to 5 PM  
OPEN LUNCH

Visit our website at [www.edcgov.us/AirQualityManagement](http://www.edcgov.us/AirQualityManagement)  
for more information on legal burning and District activities.

*Thank you for working with us to improve air quality!*