CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN

Wood burning is a serious health matter that directly and adversely impacts the health of Valley residents.

During winter, smoke from residential wood burning – whether it’s in a fireplace, wood stove, pellet stove, wood-burning insert or outdoor chimineas and fire pits – puts dangerous emissions into the air.

Each winter, from November 1 through the end of February, the District issues a daily residential wood-burning declaration. This lets you know if you can burn, depending on your county and the device you have in your residence. This only applies to devices subject to Rule 4901. It does not apply to outdoor bonfires or disposal of materials, both of which are illegal.

You can find the wood-burning status several ways:

- Call 1-800-SMOG INFO (766-4463)
- Visit www.valleyair.org/CBYB
- Through the free “Valley Air” app

It is YOUR responsibility to find out if you can burn on any given day. If you burn when it is prohibited, you will face fines and penalties.

Check Before You Burn applies to any indoor or outdoor device which burns solid fuel, such as wood, wood pellets or manufactured wood logs. This includes open hearth fireplaces, stoves and inserts, pellet stoves, and outdoor chimineas and fire pits.

For more information, visit www.valleyair.org or contact the nearest District office.

Northern Region
Serving San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced counties
4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto, CA 95356-8718
Tel: 209-557-6400  FAX: 209-557-6475
Complaint Line: 1-800-281-7003

Central Region (Main Office)
Serving Madera, Fresno and Kings counties
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA 93726-0244
Tel: 559-230-6000  FAX: 559-230-6061
Complaint Line: 1-800-870-1037

Southern Region
Serving Tulare and Valley air basin portions of Kern counties
34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield, CA 93308-9725
Tel: 661-392-5500  FAX: 661-392-5585
Complaint Line: 1-800-926-5550

www.valleyair.org & www.healthyairliving.com

HEALTHY AIR LIVING®

San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

1 800 SMOG INFO
www.valleyair.org/Rule4901
Make ONE change.
Check Before You Burn!

Wood burning puts dangerous particulate matter into the Valley’s skies. This form of pollution can cause respiratory infections, lung disease, heart attacks and strokes.

Each winter, the District’s Check Before You Burn program lets you know if residential wood burning is allowed in your county on any given day, based on air quality and the type of wood-burning device you have in your home.

Residences with no other source of heat or no access to piped-in natural gas (even if you use propane) are exempt from these restrictions. However, outdoor wood burning devices at all residences are still subject to the daily restrictions, regardless of exemption status.

If your gas stove or insert does NOT burn wood or pellets, you can use it anytime.

There are three declaration levels:

- **No one can burn at their residence.**
- **If you have a registered, clean-burning device, you can burn wood or pellets at your residence.**
- **If you must burn, please ensure your firewood is clean, seasoned and dry. Unseasoned wood smolders and creates additional emissions, and may result in a fine.**

Save Big When You Switch to Natural Gas

Valley residents that choose to switch to a natural gas or propane-fueled insert can get significant savings! Find out how much you can qualify for at [www.valleyair.org/burncleaner](http://www.valleyair.org/burncleaner).

Maintain Your Wood-burning Device

Regular servicing of your wood-burning device will keep it burning cleanly and efficiently, and produce the fewest emissions possible. You can contact an authorized Burn Cleaner retailer or a reputable chimney sweep to have your device serviced annually.

Register: To register your clean-burning device, visit [www.valleyair.org/CBYBregistration](http://www.valleyair.org/CBYBregistration).

Burning Trash or Using Burn Barrels is Illegal

Never burn trash, magazines, newspapers, plastics, yard waste or other materials in any indoor or outdoor wood burning device. Doing so is illegal and hazardous.