

Toxic Air Pollution From Burning Household Waste

Smoke from burning household waste is unhealthy to breathe. Small children, pregnant women, older adults and people with asthma or other respiratory ailments are especially sensitive to its effects.

Smoke released from burning waste is released close to the ground and may drift onto neighbors property. It can cause odor problems and complaints and contains significant amounts of air pollutants and toxic chemicals.

Carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) represent the largest portion of pollutants emitted from burning household waste. Smaller amounts of more poisonous chemicals are also released into the air. Chemicals commonly detected in the smoke include benzene, styrene, formaldehyde, polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (PCDDs; also know as dioxides), polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs; also known as furans), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and heavy metals such as lead, mercury and arsenic.

Exposure to toxic pollutants have been associated with cancer, birth defects, and can effect the central nervous system, cause headaches, fatigue, weakness and depression.



Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
1947 Galileo Court Suite #103
Davis, CA 95616

Yolo-Solano Air Quality
Management District

RURAL RESIDENTIAL YARD BURNING



We Care For The Air

Phone (530) 757-3650
Ag Burn Line (530) 757-3660
Toll Free (800) 246-3660

www.ysaqmd.org

Open Burning of Rural Residential Yard Vegetation

The rules and regulations of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (AQMD) prohibit the burning of household waste and materials other than green yard waste. The vegetation resulting from routine gardening may be burned in open fires, **only on days in which rural fires are authorized**. Generally, the burn hours are from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

The daily burn status can be obtained from your local fire district or by calling the fire dispatch office in your respective county:

Yolo (530) 666-8920; in Davis (530) 747-5400
Solano (707) 421-7090; in Dixon (707) 678-7080

If you have any questions with respect to what you may or may not burn, call the Yolo-Solano AQMD office at (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650 during regular business hours.

“Burning garbage from a family of four can potentially put as much dioxin and furan into the air as a well-controlled municipal waste incinerator serving tens of thousands of households.”

Types of Burn Days

Permissive Burn Day

A day on which all types of open burning may be conducted. You **must** have the prior authorization from your local fire district or county fire dispatch.

Restricted Burn Day

A day on which open burning may be conducted with specific restrictions. Residential yard burning may be permitted.

Minimum Burn Day

NO rural residential yard burning is allowed.

No Burn Day

A day on which **NO** open burning of any type can be conducted.



We Care For The Air

Rules and Regulations

- **NO** burning is to occur before 8:30 AM or after 5 PM or as designated by the local fire district.
- **Only non-agricultural, vegetative** material from your immediate property can be burned. Burning of household garbage, old wood or lumber, including chemically treated or painted wood, is **NOT** allowed.
- The local fire department or county fire dispatch **must** be notified each day prior to the start of burning.
- Materials from non-agricultural, commercial operations may not be transported to your property and disposed of by open burning.
- State law and district rules provide for substantial penalties to persons found to be in violation of open burning regulations.

Alternatives to Burning Household Waste

Reduce, recycle, reuse or dispose of in a licensed landfill as alternative methods to burning household waste.