



## MONTEREY BAY

Unified Air Pollution Control District  
serving Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz counties

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AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER  
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## NEW BURN ZONES FOR PRESCRIBED BURNS

Studies have shown that smoke dispersal conditions can be different in coastal versus inland areas. To better represent local conditions, the North Central Coast Air Basin (Monterey, San Benito, & Santa Cruz counties) is now separated into five Air Sub-Basins. California Air Resources Board (CARB) meteorologists now make a separate daily burn decision for **prescribed burns** in each sub-basin:

**NORTH CENTRAL COAST:** Air Sub-Basin #30 - High (areas at or above 3,000 ft)  
Air Sub-Basin #31 - Northwest Coastal  
Air Sub-Basin #32 - Southeast Coastal  
Air Sub-Basin #33 - Northwest Inland  
Air Sub-Basin #34 - Southeast Inland  
*Note: Air Sub-Basins 31, 32, 33, & 34 are less than 3,000 ft. elevation*

**BURN ZONE MAP** - Available at [www.mbuapcd.org](http://www.mbuapcd.org) in the Smoke Management section.

### BURN STATUS FOR PRESCRIBED BURN PROJECTS (available by 3 pm)

- **Online Clickable Map:** [www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm) Click on "48- 72- 96-Hour Forecast" on the left side. Then click on our area on the California map.
- **Online Spreadsheet of the Entire Year's Burn Days:** [www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm) Click on "Daily Burn Decisions" on the left.
- **By Phone:** Call (916) 445-0747. This will be a long-distance call.
- **Or, you can call the Air District** from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri (831) 647-9411.

### BURN STATUS FOR AGRICULTURAL & BACKYARD BURNS - (available by 4 pm)

- **Call 1-800-CAL-BURN** (1-800-225-2876).
- **Or, you can call the Air District** from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri (831) 647-9411.

Ag & backyard burners do not need a District Smoke Management Permit/Plan, but they may need a Fire District permit. The daily burn decision for agricultural and backyard burners will continue to be a single declaration for the entire air basin.

### WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1-800-CAL-BURN & THE CARB WEBSITE?

1-800-CAL-BURN gives the burn status for agricultural & backyard burns. The CARB website gives burn status for prescribed burn projects. **Prescribed Burners have an Air District Smoke Management Permit & Plan.**

- Ag & Backyard Burn Permissive Burn Day = **All** of the **low** air sub-basins #s 31, 32, 33, & 34 are permissive burn days.
- Ag & Backyard Burn "No-Burn" Day = **One or more** of the **low** air sub-basins #s 31, 32, 33, & 34 is "no-burn".

Note: Burn status for air sub basin #30 **High** does not affect agricultural or backyard burn status because almost all of these burns are below 3,000 ft. elevation.

### QUESTIONS?

Please contact Betsy Hibbits, Smoke Management Coordinator, at (831) 647-9411 ext. 213 or [bhibbits@mbuapcd.org](mailto:bhibbits@mbuapcd.org)