



**LAKE COUNTY AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
885 Lakeport Blvd
Lakeport, CA 95453
Phone (707) 263-7000
Fax (707) 263-0421

Douglas G. Gearhart
Air Pollution Control Officer
doug@lcaqmd.net

-PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE-

CONTACT: Douglas Gearhart, APCO @ 263-7000 **RELEASE DATE:** November 2, 2012

The Annual Lake County Burn Ban Lifted On Monday, November 5, 2012

The annual Lake County Burn Ban for 2012 is lifted on Monday, November 5, with CalFire declaring an end to fire hazard season. Lake County's joint Fire and Air Quality Management District's open burning program has incorporated both fire safety and air quality management since 1987, and has greatly contributed to our community's superior fire safety and air quality.

Burn permits are required for all burning in the Lake County Air Basin. Contact your local Fire Protection Agency for a burn permit, or the Lake County Air Quality Management District to obtain a Smoke Management Plan. A Smoke Management Plan is required for all burns over 20 acres in size, multi-day burns, standing vegetation burns, and whole tree or vine removals over an acre. A fee is required for all burn permits, payable at the time the permit is issued. Burn permits (Agricultural and Residential) and Smoke Management Plans are \$23, while Land Development/Lot Clearing burn permits are \$70.

Only clean dry vegetation that was grown on the property may be burned. Residential burn permits require a one-acre or larger lot, a burn location that is located at least 100 ft. from all neighbors, and a burn location at least 30 ft. from any structure. Lot Clearing burns require special permits available at your local Fire Agency. Burn only the amount of material that can be completely consumed during the allowed burning hours. Read your Burn Permit carefully and follow all the conditions.

Each day of the burning season is designated as a "No Burn Day", a "Limited Burn Day", or an "Extended Burn Day". On "No Burn Days" all open burning is prohibited, unless an economic exemption has been given for a specific burn. Contact the LCAQMD for details. On all permissive burn days, burning is generally allowed from 9am to 3pm only. Extended burn days allow burning during daylight hours for certain agricultural burn permit holders with specific approval for extended hours. Read your permit for allowed hours of burning. You can determine the daily "Burn Day" status by calling the phone numbers found on your burn permit.

Consider using the vegetative waste pickup provided with your waste collection services or composting as an alternative to burning leaves. Improper leaf burning can produce excessive smoke creating a health hazard and potentially a public nuisance. Contact your local Fire Safe Council for chipping information. For South County go to www.southlakefiresafecouncil.org or your local fire station. For all other areas of the county, call 279-2968.

The law requires that an able-bodied adult supervise all fires. Burning even a small amount of illegal material can result in toxic ash and smoke that contain cancer-causing substances and contribute to other health problems. Burning prohibited materials can also result in significant fines. Some people have smoke allergies and/or respiratory problems and their health is degraded by even small amounts of smoke. Please be considerate of your neighbors. A permit does not allow you to create health problems for others and you can be liable for health care costs, fines and other costs resulting from your burning. Thank you for your cooperation this burn season.