

# TYPES OF BURNING IN THE VALLEY

## BURNING TRASH

**Rule 4103** makes burning garbage, including yard waste and using burn barrels illegal.

- 🔥 Burning trash creates pollution and harms our health.
- 🔥 You may face fines if you burn trash.



**Report a Complaint**

- 📱 "Valley Air App"
- 🌐 [valleyair.org/complaints](http://valleyair.org/complaints)
- 📞 **Northern Region**  
1-800-281-7003  
San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced counties
- 📞 **Central Region**  
1-800-870-1037  
Madera, Fresno, and Kings counties
- 📞 **Southern Region**  
1-800-926-5550  
Tulare and the Valley portion of Kern counties

## RESIDENTIAL WOOD BURNING

**Rule 4901** applies to indoor/outdoor devices that burn solid fuel, such as wood/pellets. This includes open-hearth fireplaces, stoves, inserts and outdoor wood-burning devices.

- 🔥 Winter months in the Valley tend to be stagnant with no air movement, which traps pollution.
- 🔥 From Nov 1 - end of Feb, residents can check the daily residential wood-burning status for their county.



**Check Residential Burn Status**

- 📱 "Valley Air App"
- 🌐 [valleyair.org/burnstatus](http://valleyair.org/burnstatus)
- 📞 1-800-SMOG-INFO  
(1-800-766-4463)

## AGRICULTURAL OPEN BURNING

**Rule 4103** No person shall knowingly set or allow open burning unless the person has a valid permit issued by the District.

- 🔥 The phase-out of most agricultural burning in the San Joaquin Valley will be completed by January 1, 2025.
- 🔥 The District strongly encourages growers to explore alternatives to burning, through the District's grant program, which helps fund options like chipping, shredding, and soil incorporation. Visit [valleyair.org/agburnalternatives](http://valleyair.org/agburnalternatives) for more information.

### Ag Burn Process

1. Obtain an agricultural burn permit by contacting District staff.
2. Obtain burn authorization via these methods:



- 🌐 [sms.valleyair.org](http://sms.valleyair.org)
- 📞 (559) 227-7143  
(800) 665-2876

## HAZARD REDUCTION BURNING

- 🔥 In an effort to maintain foothill and mountain properties of the Valley air basin in a fire-safe condition, Section 4291 of the California Public Resources Code (PRC) requires the removal of vegetation that can spread fire from the natural growth to a building or structure.
- 🔥 The District strongly encourages you to consider other disposal alternatives, such as chipping, mulching, or composting.
- 🔥 However, if you choose to burn, you may only burn the natural vegetation that has been removed to comply with PRC 4291.

### Haz Burn Process

**Obtain a Burn Permit:**  
Processed through your local forestry or fire protection agency.

**Obtain Burn Authorization:**  
Before you light a fire.



- 🌐 [valleyair.org/hazburn](http://valleyair.org/hazburn)
- 📞 1-877-HAZ-BURN  
(1-877-429-2876)

## PRESCRIBED BURNING

- 🔥 Prescribed burning is one of the most important tools land and forest managers use today to reduce wildfire hazards, clear excess vegetation, control plant diseases, improve wildlife habitats and restore natural ecosystems. This is also known as prescribed fire.
- 🔥 Around 25% of California's people—over 11 million—live in places with high fire danger. The state uses prescribed fire to help keep these communities safe.

For more information about prescribed fires in your local communities, visit:



**CAL FIRE**  
[www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/prescribed-fire](http://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/prescribed-fire)



**US FOREST SERVICE**  
[www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/prescribed-fire](http://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/prescribed-fire)

## WILDFIRES

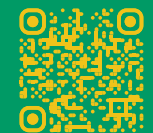
- 🔥 Wildfire smoke – a complex mixture of air pollutants – is unhealthy to breathe and can be especially dangerous for children, the elderly, pregnant women, and people with heart or respiratory conditions.
- 🔥 If you can smell smoke and see ash, that is an indication that you are being affected by poor air quality.



### Protect Yourself

- 🏠 **Stay Indoors**  
if you see or smell smoke
- 📄 **Replace Air Filters**  
more frequently
- 👤 **Wear A Face Mask**
- 👨 **Consult Your Doctor**  
for air-quality related health issues

For more information about wildfires happening in your community, visit:



[valleyair.org/wildfires](http://valleyair.org/wildfires)

