



C&E Advisory

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Compliance & Enforcement Division

November 24, 2003

ADVISORY FOR REGULATION 5: OPEN BURNING

CHANGES TO BURN NOTIFICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Prior District Notification - New Electronic Notification Option is available.

Regulation 5, Section 406 requires most burners to provide notification to the District prior to burning. In order to satisfy this requirement, a person may now provide notification to the District **electronically via fax modem or as an E-mail attachment**.

This new notification procedure compliments the two existing compliance options:

- Facsimile Notification - submit via FAX (415-928-0338) prior to burning.
- Notification by Mail - must be postmarked at least 5 days prior to burning.

Instructions for accessing Notification forms from the District's Web-site (www.baaqmd.gov) and for [submitting the Notification forms](#) by mail, facsimile, and electronically to the District are attached to this advisory.

Notification Forms - there are now 3 **new** Notification forms to choose from:

Notification Form "A" - the use of this form is intended for all allowable fires, except for Vineyard or Orchard & Attrition fires or Hazard Reduction fires. This form can be used with or without authorization from the local fire agency.

Notification Form "B" - this form was developed specifically for Vineyard or Orchard & Attrition fires and can be used with or without authorization from the local fire agency.

Notification Form "C" - this form was developed specifically for Hazard Reduction fires (a.k.a. Hazardous Material fires) and can be used with or without authorization from the local fire agency.

Other Significant Change

- A person is required to submit only one notification form to the District per burn season, **unless** the burner intends to burn more than the quantity of "material to be burned" indicated on the front side of the Notification form initially submitted.

SEE BACK OF ADVISORY FOR MORE INFORMATION (OVER)

REMEMBER: It is the responsibility of the person who conducts open burning to know and satisfy all of the following additional conditions:

- Burn Day Status - Fires are only allowed on permissive burn days, as determined by the District.
- Burn Hour Restrictions - Generally, no fires are allowed before 10:00 a.m. In the afternoon, fires cannot be ignited and material cannot be added to fires after two hours before sunset.
- Smoke Production - piled material must be managed to ensure that burning the material does not produce smoke after sunset any day.
- Fuel Conditions - The material to be burned must be dried for at least 60 days and be reasonably free of dirt and soil.
- Pile Size Limits - the base area of each pile must not exceed 25 square yards and the pile height must be at least two-thirds of the average width of the pile.
- Wind Conditions - Fires cannot be ignited and material cannot be added to fires when the wind velocity is less than 5 miles/hour or when the wind direction at the burn site is such that the direction of smoke drift is toward a populated area.

You cannot burn residential or "backyard" waste, garden trimmings, leaves, landscape (tree branches, plants, and grass) debris and cuttings, and any agricultural waste that is not from a commercial agricultural operation.



For any questions about District Regulation 5, call Janet Simon at (415) 749-4780.



For the 24-Hour burn status recording, call (800) 792-0787.

Kelly Wee
Director of Compliance & Enforcement