



## How is the Burn/No-Burn Day Status Determined and Announced?

The Permissive Burn/No Burn Day status is **not** determined by the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD).

There are two primary factors that are considered to determine burn day status:

1. Are atmospheric conditions such that the smoke from burning will easily rise and disperse, or will the smoke stay near the ground and potentially affect public health?
2. Are fire conditions such that the risk of an escaped control burn leading to wildfire is too high?

If either of these factors indicate that burning could impact public health and safety, the status is determined to be **No Burn Day**.

If both factors indicate burning is not likely to impact public health and safety, the status is determined to be **Permissive Burn Day**.

Air Quality determinations are made by meteorologists working for the California Air Resources Board (CARB):

- More information can be found at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm>

Fire Danger determinations are made by the Fire Marshall working for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire):

- More information can be found at: <https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/current-burn-status>

CARB meteorologists make air quality burn day determinations based on the meteorological criteria set forth in Title 17 California Code of Regulations:

- The primary criteria is a meteorological value called 500 millibar (mb) heights.
- High 500 mb height values indicate air is sinking through the air column. This tends to keep smoke near the ground.
- Low 500 mb height values indicate air is rising. This tends to cause smoke to rise and disperse.

No Burn Days may also be declared if:

- Significant amounts of smoke or ozone already in the air are expected to create health impacts.
- Other meteorological factors indicate smoke health impacts are likely if burning is permitted.

# IS IT A BURN DAY?

There are four ways to learn the Burn Day Status, which are updated after 3:00pm daily.

## THE MOST DIRECT SOURCE:



### By Phone:

- **West Slope:**  
(530) 621-5897 or (866) 621-5897
- **Lake Tahoe:**  
(530) 621-5842 or (888) 332-2876

**THE EL DORADO COUNTY  
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (AQMD)**

**OFFICE HOURS ARE:**

Monday – Friday 8am to 5pm

We are closed 12-1 for lunch

330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

Visit our website at <https://www.eldoradocounty.ca.gov/Land-Use/Air-Quality-Management-District>  
for more information on legal burning and District activities.



### ON THE WEB:

[EldoradoBurnPermit.org](http://EldoradoBurnPermit.org)

- Click on “Burn Information”
- You can apply for a Burn Permit there too!



### ON FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/EDCAQMD](http://www.facebook.com/EDCAQMD)



### ON X (FORMERLY TWITTER):

[www.twitter.com/EDCAQMD](http://www.twitter.com/EDCAQMD)

*Thank you for working with us to improve air quality!*