



# BACKYARD BURN REGULATIONS

CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION

930 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Santa Cruz Ca 95062 (831) 685-6698

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Burns permitted for Central Fire District properties between December 1 – April 30 of each year, on regulated burn days **ONLY**, with an annual permit issued by Central Fire District.

Burn Hours: 8:00am - 3:00pm - *Piles must be completely extinguished by 4:00pm*

- § Parcel size must be ½ acre or more in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) or Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) zone to conduct backyard burning
- § **ONLY** yard trimmings and brush originating on the premises are to be burned
- § **ONLY** clean, dry wood waste 6 inches in diameter or smaller are permitted for burning
- § A responsible adult must be in attendance at all times and be able to furnish the permit upon Fire District personnel request
- § A water source or approved fire extinguishing equipment must be readily available (fire extinguisher, dirt, sand, garden hose, water barrel etc.)
- § Firefighting tools such as a shovel, rake, hoe etc. are also required to be at the burn site
- § Burn pile locations must be a minimum of 50 feet from all structures and property lines and at least 100 feet from structures on adjacent properties
- § Burn piles are not to exceed 4 feet in diameter by 4 feet high
- § Burn piles are to be spaced at least 25 feet apart from one another
- § Clear all flammable material and vegetation within 10 feet of the outer edge of the burn pile down to bare soil
- § *Cover burn piles during rainfall.* Burn materials must be dry and free of surface moisture before burning
- § The use of any combustible and/or flammable liquids as starting fuels is absolutely prohibited
- § Always start burn pile ignition from the downwind side. This allows for better control of the fire and helps the material burn thoroughly producing less smoke emissions
- § To prevent excessive smoke emissions, **DO NOT burn grass clippings, leaves, conifer needles or stumps**
- § Failure to burn within the requirements of law may result in citation and you may be responsible for suppression costs
- § **Fire District personnel have the authority to revoke a burn permit at any time for unsafe conditions. Fire District personnel are authorized to immediately cease open burning if they designate the conditions as hazardous or it becomes a public nuisance**

BURNING IS NOT PERMITTED IN WINDY CONDITIONS, OR IN RAIN/HEAVY MIST.

*Limit Smoke Emissions. Burn Safe. Burn Smart.*