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May 1, 2018

PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

May 1st CAL FIRE “Fire Season” Begins

Starting Tuesday, May 1, 2018 the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) will require an “LE5” Burn Permit in addition to your 2018-2019 District Burn Permit for any outdoor open burning taking place in the State Responsibility Areas (SRA) of the District. This LE5 requirement is a CAL FIRE policy that remains in place until CAL FIRE suspends all residential burning for the duration of fire season.

State Responsibility Areas are generally the unincorporated, rural areas of the District. If you are in a State Responsibility Area your District Burn Permit will specify “CDF” under the Permit Agency tab. You may also verify your SRA status by entering your address into CAL FIRE’s [SRA map tool](#).

Please give yourself time to review and understand the District and CAL FIRE burn permit requirements to plan for a safe burn that also minimizes air pollution. Failure to comply with air pollution requirements may result in a Notice of Violation with penalties and/or potential District permit revocation. Failure to maintain control of an open fire may also result in the District permit revocation and the permit holder may be charged with the fire suppression cost, civil damages, and fines.

Some useful references to help you have a successful burn event are the [District’s Open Burn Checklist](#) and [CAL FIRE’s residential burning safety video](#). Please note that to receive a LE5 permit requires a pre-burn inspection of your burn material by CAL FIRE. Call your local CAL FIRE station or (707) 576-2285 to schedule a burn pile inspection.

As a reminder, all District burn permits expire on April 30th. Please check to make sure you have a valid District Burn Permit starting May 1st, 2018. If your permit has expired you can renew it by contacting the District. Remember to only burn on a District-authorized permissive burn day and for May through September that permitted burn hours are from 6 AM until noon.

Please help us to reduce the danger and losses caused by uncontrolled fires, and to protect our clean air by burning safely and cleanly. For assistance regarding District requirements please call (707) 433-5911; for CAL FIRE assistance please call (707) 576-2285.