



150 Matheson Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448 • PH: (707) 433-5911 • FX: (707) 433-4823

March 22, 2018

NOTICE: Open Burn Permit Program Update

The Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (District) is proposing to take formal action to revise District “*Regulation 2, Open Burning Rule 300, Fees*” to increase the permit fees for open burning starting in Spring of 2019.

- California statute requires an open burn permit from the local air district of jurisdiction for open burning. Statute mandates that District open burn permits comply with specific air pollution and fee recovery requirements.
- Current Open Burn Permit fees were established in 2001 to cover the cost of implementing the open burn permit program and fees have never been increased. Over the last 17 years, the District’s cost to operate the program has increased, creating a funding gap for the program.
- The District is proposing the necessary fee increase to close the current funding gap, without excess revenue generation.
- Simultaneously, the Open Burn Permit content will be revised, and permit types streamlined, to better communicate air pollution and fire safety requirements. No new open burn permit rules are being proposed, other than the fee adjustment and permit type updates.
- The District will conduct two public workshops to present and discuss the proposed program update. The workshops will also review the air pollution and fire safety requirements of the Open Burn Program. These workshops will be held at the following dates , times, and locations:
 - Healdsburg - Thursday, May 17, 2018 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Healdsburg City Council Chambers, located at 401 Grove Street, Healdsburg, CA.
 - Guerneville – Thursday, November 8, 2018 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Russian River Fire Protection District Station, 14100 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville, CA 95446.
- The District Board of Directors will take formal action on the proposed fee increase during a public meeting currently scheduled for March 6, 2019. For notice of this and other District Board meetings by e-mail, you may subscribe to the District’s e-mail notification list via our web site at: NoSoCoAir.net.

Copies of the proposed rule amendment and staff report are available upon request or they can be viewed at the District Office, 150 Matheson Street, Healdsburg, CA, 95448. If you have any questions or comments concerning the proposed fee changes or the workshop, please contact the District at (707) 433-5911. ***A summary of the proposed fee schedule is below.***

Proposed Open Burn Permit Fee Schedule and Classifications

Agricultural Burning Categories

<i>Proposed</i>		Current	
<i>Agricultural</i>	\$60	A1 - Agricultural, General	\$30
		A2 - Agricultural, Pruning Waste	\$30+ \$1/acre
<i>Crop Removal</i>	\$100	A3 - Agricultural, Crop Removal	\$30+\$2/acre

Residential Burning Categories

<i>Proposed</i>		Current	
<i>Residential</i>	\$30	N1 - Residential	\$20
<i>Property Development</i>	\$75	N2 - Property Development	\$50+ \$2/acre
<i>Public Entity</i>	\$75	N3 - Public Entity	\$50

Prescribed Burning Categories

<i>Proposed</i>		Current	
<i>Prescribed-SMP* Exempt</i>	\$100	P0 - SMP* Exempt	\$80
<i>Prescribed</i>	\$250	P1 through P4	\$80-\$130

*SMP = "Smoke Management Plan." Required for prescribed burns over 3 acres in size.