

Amador County Air Pollution Control District

Rule 311 Miscellaneous Burning

311.1. Land Development Clearing. The APCD finds it more economically desirable to dispose of wood waste from trees, vines, and bushes on property being developed for commercial or residential purposes by burning instead of burial at a sanitary landfill. This material shall be allowed for disposal by burning in compliance with the following Rules:

- i) Rule 302 Air Pollution Permit
- ii) Rule 303 Burn or No-Burn Day
- iii) Rule 304 Burning Management
- iv) Rule 305 Minimum Drying Time

311.2. Ditch and Road Maintenance. The use of open outdoor fires for right-of-way clearing by a public entity or utility, or for levee, ditch, or reservoir maintenance shall be allowed in compliance with the following Rules:

- i. Rule 302 Air Pollution Permit
- ii. Rule 303 Burn or No-Burn Day
- iii. Rule 304 Burning Management
- iv. Rule 305 Minimum Drying Time

311.3. Hazard Reduction

- i. Any public agency authorized to engage in fire protection activities, including but not limited to a fire protection district, city, city and county, or county fire department, the California Department of Forestry, and the United States Forest Service, may use or permit the use of fire to abate a hazard. (Sections 13055 and 41801)
- ii. The burning shall be done in compliance with the following Rules:
 - (1) Rule 302 Air Pollution Permit
 - (2) Rule 303 Burn or No-Burn Day
 - (3) Rule 304 Burning Management
 - (4) Rule 305 Minimum Drying Time

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- iii. Exception. If a fire officer with jurisdiction determines that a condition exists in which a fire hazard will have an imminent effect on life or property, or where other authorized officials determine that a health hazard exists and that there is no alternative to burning, all other provisions of this Regulation shall be waived.

311.4. Fire Suppression and Training. Nothing in these Rules and Regulations shall be construed as limiting the authority of any public fire official granted under provisions of law to:

- i. Set or permit a fire when such fire is, in his opinion, necessary for the instruction of public employees, and/or volunteer fire fighters, or on property used for industrial purposes, when instructing employees in the methods of fighting fires.
- ii. Set or cause to be set backfires necessary to save life or valuable property pursuant to Section 4426 of the Public Resource Code. (Section 41801)

311.5. Residential Maintenance. Burning shall be allowed under the following conditions:

- i. Burning shall be allowed only on the premises of a one- or two-family dwelling where the material originated.
- ii. The material to be burned shall consist only of natural vegetation and untreated lumber.
- iii. The burning shall be done in compliance with the following Rules:
 - (1) Rule 303 Burn or No-Burn Day
 - (2) Rule 304 Burning Management
 - (3) Rule 305 Minimum Drying Time
- iv. Materials that may not be burned include, but are not limited to, treated wood, construction or demolition debris, plastic, rubber (including tires), tar paper, insulation, petroleum waste, electrical wire, garbage, bottles, or cans.
- v. Only approved ignition devices shall be used as defined in Rule 300.2.C.
- vi. Residential burn piles may not exceed 4' x 4' x 4'.

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311.6. Recreational Activity. The use of open outdoor fires in recreational activities shall be allowed under the following conditions:

- i. Material to be burned shall be limited to charcoal, dry firewood, or cooking fuels.
- ii. Only approved ignition devices shall be used as defined in Rule 300.2.C.
- iii. Recreational fires shall not exceed 4' x 4' x 4'.

311.7. Mechanized Burners

- i. Requirements. The APCO may authorize, by permit, open outdoor fires for the purpose of disposing of agricultural wastes, or wood waste from trees, vines, or bushes, or other wood debris free of non-wood materials, in a mechanized burner such that no air contaminant is discharged for a period or periods aggregating more than 30 minutes in any eight hour period which is:
 - (1) As dark or darker in shade as that designated No. 1 on the Ringlemann Chart, as published by the United States Bureau of Mines, or
 - (2) Of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater in value than does smoke described in Rule 311.7.A.1 above.
- ii. In authorizing the operation of a mechanized burner, the APCO may make the permit subject to whatever conditions are reasonably necessary to assure conformance with the standards prescribed in this Regulation. (Section 41812)