

BUTTE COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

**RULE 302 – GENERAL BURN PRACTICES, REQUIREMENTS, AND  
CONDITIONS**

*(Adopted February 23, 1971; Amended December 12, 1972 and July 15, 1980; Recodified August 6, 1985; Amended April 7, 1992; Recodified and Amended August 20, 1998; Recodified August 22, 2002; Amended June 23, 2005)*

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## RULE 302

- 1 FREEDOM FROM DEBRIS AND MOISTURE:** All wastes to be burned shall be free of tires, rubbish, tar paper, construction debris, used pesticide containers, and all other wastes prohibited by this Regulation, and shall be reasonably free of dirt, soil, visible surface moisture and moisture content so as to minimize smoke.
- 2 ARRANGEMENT OF BURNABLE WASTE.**

  - 2.1 Smoke Minimization:** All burnable waste shall be arranged so that it will ignite as rapidly as practicable within applicable fire control restrictions and burn with a minimum of smoke.
  - 2.2 Designated Burn Period:** Only that amount of waste that can reasonably be expected to completely burn within the burn period designated on a valid burn permit following ignition shall be ignited on any one (1) day; provided, however, that trees, stumps and branches greater than six (6) inches in diameter may be ignited even though they cannot reasonably be expected to completely burn within such period. Burning vegetation greater than six (6) inches in diameter beyond the designated burn hours does not relieve the permittee from smoke impact liability.
- 3 DRYING PERIOD:** Except as provided for in Rule 304 of these Rules and Regulations, to lower the moisture content of agricultural waste, the elapsed time between cutting, felling or uprooting and ignition or burning shall be:

  - 3.1** A minimum of thirty (30) days for trees, stumps and branches greater than six (6) inches in diameter.
  - 3.2** A minimum of fifteen (15) days for vines, bushes or branches less than or equal to six (6) inches in diameter.
- 4 WIND DIRECTION:** Waste authorized for burning shall not be ignited when the wind direction is such that smoke from the burning of such waste would be blown or carried into a nearby populated area and could create a public nuisance.
- 5 BURNING OF VINES OR BUSHES TREATED WITH HERBICIDES:** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3 of this Rule, vines or bushes may be burned in place without being cut or uprooted if they are treated and desiccated with herbicides and allowed to dry at least six (6) months prior to ignition or burning. However, the applicant for a burning permit may demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) that burning vines or bushes treated with herbicides, prior to the expiration of such six (6) month period, could be accomplished in a manner which would produce no more smoke than would be produced by the burning of the same type of vines or bushes which had been cut or uprooted and dried

for fifteen (15) days. Such burning may be allowed by the APCO prior to the expiration of the six (6) month period.

- 6 **TRANSPORTATION OF BURNABLE MATERIALS:** All vegetative material to be burned pursuant to Regulation III must be burned on the property where the material was grown. No material may be transported to another location to be burned.
- 7 **REQUIRED INSPECTIONS:** A District inspection is required prior to giving notice of intent to ignite for burning pursuant to Rule 300, Section 2.4, for burning on five (5) or more acres.