



Riverside County Fire Department in Cooperation with CAL FIRE

NEWS RELEASE



Bill Weiser, Fire Chief



www.rvcfire.org

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CONTACT: Public Affairs Bureau
951-940-6985

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIRE CHIEF LIFTS OPEN BURNING

PERRIS, CA – Effective Monday, November 27th, at 8:00 a.m., the burn permit suspension in Riverside County will be lifted. CAL FIRE Riverside Unit Chief Bill Weiser is formally canceling the burn permit suspension and advises that those possessing current and valid agriculture and residential burn permits can now resume burning on permissible burn days. Agricultural burns must be inspected by CAL FIRE before burning until the end of the peak fire season. Inspections may be required for burns other than agriculture burns. This can be verified by contacting your local Air Quality Management District.

Cooler temperatures, higher humidity, and the chance of winter weather have helped to diminish the threat of wildfire. Property owners and residents are asked to use caution while conducting debris or agriculture burns, follow all guidelines provided, and maintain fire control. Individuals can be held civilly and/or criminally liable for allowing a fire to escape their control and/or burn onto neighboring property.

Open Burning Permits are required in Riverside County. Residents wishing to burn **MUST** verify it is a permissive burn day before burning. Please get in touch with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) at 866-966-3293 to confirm whether or not it is a permissible burn day, or visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-alerts>. This site will also allow you to sign up and receive alerts on burning status.

PILE BURNING REQUIREMENTS

- Residential burning is not permitted in Riverside County, except for tumbleweeds.
- Burning trash, painted wood, or other debris is not allowed.
- Do NOT burn on windy days.
- Piles should be no larger than three feet high by two feet wide. You can add to the pile as it burns down.
- Clear a 10-foot diameter down to bare soil around your piles.
- Have a shovel and a water source nearby.
- An adult is required to be always in attendance at the fire.

Safe residential pile burning of forest residue by landowners is crucial in reducing fire hazards. State, Federal, and Local land management and fire agencies will also utilize this same window of opportunity to conduct prescribed burns to improve forest health and resiliency on private and public lands.

For more information on open burning and how to obtain a permit, visit the CAL FIRE website at burnpermit.fire.ca.gov.

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CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department
(951) 940-6900 | 210 W. San Jacinto Ave. Perris, CA 92570 | www.rvcfire.org

