



MEDIA ADVISORY
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Burton Mesa Pile Burn Project to Start on 2-26

WHAT: Santa Barbara County Fire Department will be conducting ongoing pile burning operations of biomass created as the result of community defensible space treatments.

WHEN: The first series of pile burns will start Tuesday, February 26 through Friday, March 1. Additional series of burns will occur through June 1; additional notification will be made each week when burning is expected to occur. Burning operations will begin at approximately 9am and be finished by 4pm on permissive burn days.

WHERE: Three separate burn plots are located west of Rucker Rd. and east of East Mesa Oaks subdivision, north of Galaxy Way and Titian Avenue between Oakhill Drive and Northoaks Drive.

WHY: This pile burning operation is the most efficient way to eliminate biomass created as the result identified defensible space treatments. The treatment and elimination of cuttings will help to safeguard the surrounding community in the event of wildfire.

WHO: This burn project is planned the Santa Barbara County Fire Department in conjunction with Santa Barbara County APCD, and the California Air Resources Board in order to minimize impacts on air quality on surrounding communities. Santa Barbara County APCD staff have reviewed the Smoke Management Plan and provided conditions to minimize smoke impacts in Santa Barbara County.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS: If you smell smoke, take precautions and use common sense to reduce any harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities. When you can smell smoke or when it is visible in your area, avoid strenuous outdoor activity and remain indoors as much as possible. These precautions are especially important to children, older adults, and those with heart and lung conditions. If you are sensitive to smoke, consider temporarily relocating and closing all doors and windows on the day of the burn. Symptoms of smoke exposure can include coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chest tightness or pain, nausea, and unusual fatigue or lightheadedness. Use caution when driving near prescribed burns.

A temporary air monitor has been placed near the burn site. Air quality conditions will be available on the APCD's website: www.OurAir.org/todays-air-quality

This burn depends on weather and air quality conditions that are favorable for smoke dispersal. If the conditions are not as desired, the burning will be rescheduled.

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