



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Prescribed Burn at Santa Maria Airport to Occur Thursday

WHAT: The Santa Maria City Fire Department, in coordination with the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, will conduct a one-day prescribed burn at the Santa Maria Airport.

WHEN: Thursday, September 26, 2019. Burning operations will start at approximately 9 a.m. and be finished by 6 p.m. on a permissive burn day.

WHERE: This prescribed burn will occur at the Santa Maria Airport.

WHY: This prescribed burn will mitigate hazards associated with pyrotechnics at the Central Coast Airfest. The burn will be conducted when the meteorological conditions are highly favorable to direct smoke away from population centers.

WHO: This burn project is planned by the Santa Maria City 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 portable air monitor will be set up at Joe Nightingale School to monitor air quality conditions. Data will be available on the Air Pollution Control District'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.

To view prescribed burns throughout the state,
visit the Prescribed Fire Information Reporting System (PFIRS) website: <https://ssl.arb.ca.gov/pfirs/>

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