



News Release

United States Department of
Agriculture - Forest Service

Plumas National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Burning Permits Required May 1

In Plumas County, and in the Butte, Lassen, Sierra, and Yuba County portions of the Plumas National Forest, burning permits for dooryard pile burning and all other open burning are required May 1st. Beginning June 1, the hours allowed for burning debris will be restricted to 5 am to 11 am.

If the burn piles are larger than 4 feet by 4 feet in size, a special burn permit is needed and the piles must be inspected by a District Fire Prevention Officer. Burn permits will be suspended when the state implements a burning ban on or before July 1, so residents should plan to get burning done early. The burn ban will be in effect until at least November 1st, regardless of the weather.

As of January 1, 2004, the use of burn barrels has been banned in most California areas including Butte and Plumas County residential areas. Some exceptions apply in less populated areas, so contact local Air Quality Management Districts for restrictions.

Procedures for obtaining burn permits in Plumas, Butte, Yuba, Sierra, and Lassen counties will remain the same as last year:

Mt. Hough Ranger District, in Quincy, will issue permits at the office only. Call (530) 283-0555 for instructions on how to obtain a permit. 39696 Hwy 70 in Quincy; 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday.

Greenville Information and Work Center will issue permits at the office only. Call (530) 284-7126 for instructions on how to obtain a permit. 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday.

Beckwourth Ranger District, in Blairsden, will issue permits through the mail or at the office, 23 Mohawk Road in Blairsden, 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday. Permits issued last spring are good for two years, so

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please check the expiration date. Call (530) 836-2575 for instructions on how to obtain a permit. For additional fire prevention information, call the District's fire prevention hot line 24-hour recording at (530) 836-7125.

Feather River Ranger District, in **Oroville**, will issue permits at the office only; hours are Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm. Call (530) 534-6500 for instructions on how to obtain a permit.

Challenge Visitor Center and Work Station will issue permits at the office only; hours are Friday and Saturday, 9 am to 3 pm. Call (530) 675-1146 for instructions on how to obtain a permit. To set an appointment for inspection and to obtain burn permits, please call the Challenge Fire Prevention office at (530) 675-1142, then press #3; Fire Prevention Officers will return the call. If unable to obtain a permit from the Feather River Ranger District, please contact the local CAL FIRE (formally known as CDF) fire station.

Prior to burning, call the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (AQMD) to verify if it is a permissive burn day. The AQMD also requires Air Pollution Permits year-round for all burning other than dooryard pile burning. Residents of Plumas County may call any of the following numbers for a recorded message:

Portola:	832-4528	Quincy:	283-3602
Greenville:	284-6520	Chester:	258-2588
Vinton/Chilcoot:	994-3561		

For air quality reasons, burning is banned entirely (all year long) in the downtown Quincy and downtown East Quincy portions of American Valley (Quincy Fire Protection District). For more information on burning in American Valley, call the AQMD at 283-4654 or the Mt. Hough Ranger District at 283-0555.

Residents of Butte, Sierra, Yuba, and Lassen counties should contact the following for their area:

Butte County:

Burn permits	Contact local CAL FIRE office
Burn day information	(530) 896-2537

Sierra County:

Burn permits	(530) 994-3561
Project burning (large-scale residential)	(530) 274-9360

Yuba County:

Burn permits	Contact CAL FIRE, Forest Service, or local fire department
Burn day information	(530) 741-6299

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Lassen County:

Burn permit

Contact CAL FIRE, Forest Service, or City of Susanville Fire Dept.

Burn day information

(530) 251-8110

Helpful Fire Safe Burning Guidelines:

- Keep the burn pile to a manageable size.
- Pile debris in a cleared area and construct control lines to mineral soil around burn pile.
- An adult must be in attendance at all times during burning.
- Keep a shovel at the burning site.
- Have a water supply at the burning site.
- Don't burn on windy days.
- Ensure the fire is out. Check burn area before leaving it.
- Have a valid burning permit.
- Burn only on AQMD approved burn days.

Debris burning is an effective means of reducing fire hazards around homes and structures if handled properly and safely. Although, please remember that the person doing the burning is financially responsible for costs and damages if the debris burn escapes.

Never leave piles unattended. Remember that the smallest ember easily re-ignites with dry weather or strong winds. In the event of a debris fire escape, call 911. Please be careful and do not hesitate to call for help!

FIRE FACT: Escaped debris burns are the number one cause of person-caused fires on private land under fire protection of the Plumas National Forest.

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-SIDEBAR-

Mt. Hough Ranger District Fire Prevention staff will be available to issue burn permits and discuss any other fire related topics of interest on Saturday, April 28, 10 am to 2 pm, in front of Safeway in Quincy, and again on Saturday, May 5, 10 am to 2 pm, in front of Evergreen Market in Greenville.

Key points:

- 1) Burn permits are required on May 1st; call the local Air Quality office to verify burn days.**
- 2) During June, burning is permitted from 5 am to 11 am only.**
- 3) Burn barrels are not permitted in residential areas of Butte and Plumas County.**