



DO IT RIGHT!

You can keep our air clean and healthy.

It's as easy as 1 - 2 - 3 - 4.



Make sure the air quality is OK before you burn. Some nights the air quality is already so poor that open fireplaces and old non-EPA certified woodstoves, located either inside or outside your home, should not be used at all because they create Visible Smoke.



When you choose to burn wood always burn small hot fires with very dry, seasoned wood or manufactured fire logs. Hot, bright fires will reduce the amount of Visible Smoke that you put out into our air.



The best way to burn wood is with an EPA certified wood heater or wood pellet stove or fireplace insert. When used properly and responsibly these Hearth appliances do not create Visible Smoke and will not trigger a citation on mandatory curtailment nights.



Natural gas, Propane gas and Electric Fireplace Hearth appliances do not create any Visible Smoke at all. They are out of sight and never subject to Mandatory Curtailment.

To read more about avoiding visible smoke, visit www.hpbapacific.org. If you choose to "Do It Right" when you burn wood as a low cost, renewable energy resource in an EPA certified wood heater or pellet stove, please give your Air District and their governing Board Members a call and ask them to change Rule 421 to allow you to operate your stove properly and responsibly and not create Visible Smoke during all stages of mandatory curtailment episodes.

Air Board Members:

Supervisor Roger Dickinson Chair
 County of Sacramento
 700 H Street, Suite 2450
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 874-5485

Council Member Steve Cohn
 City of Sacramento
 915 I Street, 5th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 808-7003

Council Member Kevin McCarty
 City of Sacramento
 915 I Street, 5th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 808-7006

Supervisor Susan Peters
 County of Sacramento
 700 H Street, Suite 2450
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 874-5471

Supervisor Don Nottoli
 County of Sacramento
 700 H Street, Suite 2450
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 874-5465

Council Member Gary Davis
 City of Elk Grove
 8400 Laguna Palms Way
 Elk Grove, CA 95758
 (916) 683-7111

Council Member Darryl Clare
 City of Galt
 380 Civic Drive
 Galt, CA 95632
 (209) 366-7130

Council Member Sandy Sheedy Vice Chair
 City of Sacramento
 915 I Street, 5th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 808-7002

Council Member Lauren Hammond
 City of Sacramento
 915 I Street, 5th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 808-7005

Supervisor Jimmie Yee
 County of Sacramento
 700 H Street, Suite 2450
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 874-5481

Supervisor Roberta MacGlashan
 County of Sacramento
 700 H Street, Suite 2450
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 874-5491

Council Member Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa
 City of Citrus Heights
 6237 Fountain Square Dr.
 Citrus Heights, CA 95621
 (916) 725-2448

Council Member Jeff Starsky
 City of Folsom
 Folsom City Hall
 50 Natoma Street
 Folsom, CA 95630
 (916) 355-7200

Council Member Robert McGarvey
 City of Rancho Cordova
 2729 Prospect Park Drive
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
 (916) 851-8700



2304 Huntington Drive, Suite 218
San Marino, California 91108

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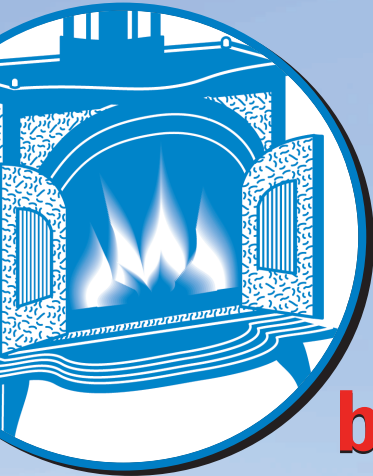


You can reduce and eliminate Visible Smoke!

Healthy Air is Everybody's
Responsibility, Every Day
and Every Night.

**You Have the Power to
"Do It Right"**

**by Choosing Clean-Burning
Fireplace Products.**



You can heat your home with affordable, renewable, wood fuel. When used properly and responsibly in an EPA certified wood heater or pellet stove, those fuels will not emit visible smoke and should be exempt from all stages of mandatory curtailment episodes. **Tell your elected officials you need the freedom to choose what is best for you.** Visit hpbapacific.org for more information and tools on how to contact your air district officials.



KEY ISSUES RELATING TO THE SACRAMENTO METRO AIR DISTRICT WOOD SMOKE REGULATIONS FOR MEMBERS IN THE SACRAMENTO AREA

Thank you for the opportunity to present several important points of information that relate to Rule 421.

1. Up to 98% of the PM 2.5 that can be attributed to wood smoke is created by gross polluters which include older Open Fireplaces, Non-EPA certified wood heaters and agriculture burning. These gross polluters should be the primary targets for control measures.
2. Homeowners who choose to use solid fuel (wood or wood products) as a heating resource must be able to use Clean Burn technologies that do not create Visible Smoke. **Failing to include EPA-certified products removes any incentive for homeowners who choose to use solid fuels** to change out and upgrade their smokey, gross polluting appliances.
3. **There is a flawed assumption by the air district that natural gas will replace ALL solid fuel usage.** That's simply not realistic. Many homeowners still choose to use solid fuels for a large variety of reasons. Lower heating costs, the desire to use a renewable locally produced fuel source, and the increased popularity of bio-mass fuels as a way to curb global warming, to name a few.
4. Enforcement of Rule 421 episodic mandatory curtailments will use **Visible Smoke** to trigger citations. The potential use of clean burn technologies during mandatory curtailment episodes will not add to enforcement costs or trigger additional citations.
5. Clean Burning EPA certified appliances are lumped in with Gross Polluters during mandatory curtailment episodes even though they do not create Visible Smoke. **Failing to separate Clean Burning technologies from Gross Polluters REMOVES any incentive for homeowners** to upgrade their appliances which will keep Gross Polluters operating in the air shed for many more years to come. In essence, **Rule 421 discourages the replacement of old polluters.**
6. **Rule 421 is confusing to the public.** The rule allows gross polluters to operate and create **Visible Smoke** right up to the point that the air becomes unhealthy. Homeowners should be asked to act responsibly every day and every night. They have the power to reduce Visible Smoke voluntarily.
7. **It is unfair, unreasonable and poor government that penalizes homeowners** who purchase Clean Burn appliances, to the tune of two to three thousand dollars, in an attempt to act responsibly and not create **Visible Smoke** every day while heating their homes with an alternative, renewable fuel resource.

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Your voice is important. In fact, Your Voice is the only way to affect any change to Rule 421. Here is what you can do:

FIRST, write a letter to any or all of the Sacramento Metro Air District board members and expressed your own concerns. A helpful, sample letter template is available to make it easier.

SECOND, call the Sacramento board member from your area. They are your elected representative and they work for you!

THIRD, call again. Your Voice is the ONLY WAY you can affect a change and your representative needs to hear what YOU want changed.

ASK FOR THESE CHANGES:

1. **Use “Visible Smoke” as part of the defining language in the curtailment section.** Change Section 115 to read: “The provisions of section 301 shall not apply to a U.S. EPA Phase II certified woodburning heater and pellet fueled woodburning heater during a Stage 1 or Stage 2 Mandatory Curtailment. These products do not emit Visible Smoke and should be exempt from all curtailments.
2. **Create a Public Outreach message to begin November 1** and extend through the end of February that asks all homeowners “Please Do Not Smoke...everyday and every night...for all our Health’s Sake.” This is a Simple Message that is clear and easy to understand and challenges everybody, including wood burners, to make positive right choices before we reach unhealthy air quality. This would act as a **Voluntary Curtailment** and stay in place from November through the end of February. The message reflects the same message that is used during a Mandatory Curtailment Episode...without enforcement and citation. The message will have Consistency and Clarity.
3. **Include EPA certified wood heaters and pellet heaters in the Incentive Program** to motivate those homeowners who still choose to use solid fuel as an energy resource to terminate the use of their gross polluters and change out to a clean burn technology appliance.

Thank you for your concern for the quality of the air we breathe.

To: _____

Date: _____

Dear Air District Board Member,

Please alter Rule 421 in the following ways:

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3. **Include EPA certified wood heaters and pellet heaters in the Incentive Program** to motivate those homeowners who still choose to use solid fuel as an energy resource to terminate the use of their gross polluters and change out to a clean burn technology appliance. These emerging technologies continue to produce cleaner more efficient appliances that are seen globally as one of the bright spots in our quest to wean ourselves from fossil fuels. The locally produced fuel when properly burned dramatically lowers our carbon footprint. Requiring homeowners to use fossil fuels is bad for our environment and our future.

Thank you for consideration of my requests.

Regards,

