

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

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## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

### San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit



**CONTACT:**  
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**RELEASE DATE:**  
April 28, 2023

### **CAL FIRE Burn Permits Required May 1st in Santa Cruz County**

Felton, CA- The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) San Mateo – Santa Cruz Unit has announced effective at 8:00 a.m. on May 1, 2023 all hazard reduction burning will require a permit in Santa Cruz County. By local ordinance the backyard burning season that does not require a CAL FIRE permit ends on April 30. The requirement for a CAL FIRE burn permit is in addition to any required air quality district permit.

Burn permits must now be obtained online at <https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/>. Applicants can access the website to obtain a burn permit which involves watching a short educational video and submitting an application. The process provides the necessary information needed to conduct the burn safely, while minimizing the chance for fire escape. Permits must be in possession either by printed copy or digitally. Permits are valid beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and require annual renewal. Permits are issued free of charge.

Property owners conducting hazard reduction burning are responsible for checking the burn day status.

Burn Day Information Line:  
County Air Pollution Control District:

Hazard Reduction Guidelines are listed on the permit and must be followed at all times.

As a reminder, always have a minimum 10-foot clearance down to bare mineral soil around all burn piles, have a shovel and a water source available, and an adult present during burning. Failure to follow these simple precautions may result in a citation and fines. For further information regarding residential burning or other fire safety tips visit your local CAL FIRE Station or go to [www.readyforwildfire.org](http://www.readyforwildfire.org).

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