

Town of Paradise

2015 Burn Season & Drought Information

Burn Season Status:

The Town of Paradise will issue residential burn permits to area residents for the 2015 burn season. Early season rains have reduced the fire threat sufficiently to permit burning beginning March 1, 2015; however, recent dry conditions may make it necessary to suspended burning early based on long term conditions. Forest fuels remain unseasonably dry despite early season rains, in the absence of any more significant rain, burning will likely be suspended on April 1st. The determination of whether to suspend burning or not will be made by the Fire Chief based on the fire risk.

Prior to burning, residents are required to obtain a burn permit from the Town. Residents must also call the residential burn line listed on the permit each day prior to burning to ensure that it is a permissible burn day. Residents should read and follow the terms of their permit to ensure burning is conducted safely and with the least impact to neighbors; failure to obtain and comply with the terms of the permit may result any and all costs related to a fire department response.

Burn permits can be obtained by completing the Residential Burn Application and submitting the application to Fire Station 81 at 767 Birch Street, along with payment of \$24.64 cash or check (checks made payable to the Town of Paradise). Retain a second copy to serve as your valid burn permit; it should be on site anytime you are burning. Questions can be directed to the Paradise Fire Department Monday-Thursday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at 872-6264.

The drought and precautionary measures for Town residents:

California's fourth consecutive dry winter has prolonged the states drought and continues to affect forest fuels. Forest fuels normally absorb soil moisture and humidity readily during the winter period; however, this year's dry conditions have kept both dead and live forest fuels at record low moisture levels making them susceptible to fire starts and spread.

Conserve Water:

The Town of Paradise has a monitoring site for the National Weather Service and rainfall readings thus far have been significantly below normal. **California is now in its fourth consecutive year of below normal rainfall**; while Paradise rainfall totals this year, 29.23" to date are above last year they are well below normal readings. Typical average rainfall to date would be around 40". As stated by the Department of Water Resources, "There is never enough water to waste in California. We are asking all residents to cut back on the amount of water they use."

Defensible Space & Evacuation Information:

The Butte County Fire Safe Council provides information about maintaining defensible space around your home as well as emergency preparedness and evacuation information. Visit the "Library" tab on their website at <http://www.thenet411.net/>. Another excellent source of information for preparedness is via CAL FIRE's website at <http://www.preventwildfireca.org/> starting with the short video at the bottom of the page.

Disposing of Vegetative Waste:

It is recognized that many residents have large parcels and it seems burning is the least arduous and only economical way to clear the abundant annual drop. Nevertheless safety precautions must take precedence.

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the comfortable climate and fill their green waste cans provided by Northern Recycling and Waste Services. A second vegetative waste container can be obtained free of charge (some restrictions apply). For further information, please call 876-3340.

NRWS also manages a vegetative waste recycling yard at 925 American Way where you can haul and dump your vegetative waste. They are open Tues-Sat from 9am-4pm. Minimum fees are \$5.00. Contact them at 877-0824 or go to <http://www.paradiserecycles.com> for more information.

The Neal Road Landfill also accepts green waste at 1023 Neal Road from 7am-4pm daily. Cost is \$12.00 a ton, with a minimum fee of \$5.00. For more information call: 345-4917.

Additionally, the Paradise Chamber of Commerce maintains a list of licensed contractors available for hire for vegetation abatement. They are open Tues-Sat from 10am-6pm and can be reached at 877-9356

For reducing vegetation, the Butte County Fire Safe Council offers up to two hours of chipping, free to members. For membership information see www.ButteFireSafe.org or call 877-0984.