



TOWN OF PARADISE 2016 BURN SEASON & FIRE-SAFE DROUGHT INFORMATION

Burn Season Status:

The Town of Paradise will soon issue residential burn permits for the 2016 burn season. Winter rains have reduced the fire threat sufficiently to permit burning beginning March 1, 2016. It is anticipated that residents will be permitted to burn through May 31, 2016. However, if conditions turn warm and dry in the spring it may be necessary to suspend burning sooner. This determination is made by the Fire Chief based on fire risk factors.

Prior to burning, residents are required to obtain a burn permit from the Town. Burn permits can be purchased online with credit cards at www.townofparadise.com or 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 at all times while you are burning.

Each day prior to burning, residents are required to call the residential burn line listed on the permit to ensure that it is a permissible burn day. Residents should read and follow the terms of their permit carefully 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 in fines that cover all costs related to a fire department response.**

Questions can be directed to the Paradise Fire Department non-emergency line at 872-6264, Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. and noon.

The drought and fire-safe measures:

While this year's rainfall has improved soil moisture and improved fuel moisture in the live forest fuels, the prior four years of drought have left Paradise and the surrounding area with a high accumulation of dead vegetation and stressed/dying trees adding to the long-term fire problem. Citizens are encouraged to monitor their trees for indication of beetles and stress and hire a certified tree faller to remove trees before they become a hazard.

- **Conserve Water:**

The National Weather Service reports rainfall readings are about normal for this time of the year. Paradise rainfall totals this year through January are 36.76. Typical average rainfall to date would be around 40". **While this winter's rains are a welcomed sight, California is still significantly behind in replenishing the State's water supply.** 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 at CAL FIRE's website at <http://readyforwildfire.org> and <http://www.preventwildfireca.org>.

- **Disposing of Vegetative Waste:**

It is recognized that many residents have large parcels, but burning is only one method to clear vegetative waste. Other options include:

- Fill 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 residents can haul and dump 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.