



TOWN OF PARADISE 2017 BURN SEASON & FIRE-SAFE INFORMATION

Burn Season Status:

The Town of Paradise will issue residential burn permits for the 2017 burn season beginning Monday, February 13, 2017. Winter rains have reduced the fire threat sufficiently to permit burning beginning March 1, 2017. It is anticipated that residents will be permitted to burn through May 31, 2017. 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. Press 1 to listen to our recorded burn line.

The bark beetle epidemic and fire-safe measures:

This year's rainfall has dramatically improved soil moisture and in-turn the fuel moisture in the live forest fuels, however, the prior five years of drought have left Paradise and the surrounding area with increasing numbers of dead and dying trees due to California's bark beetle epidemic. The dead trees not only create a long-term fire problem, they create a direct threat to life, property and infrastructure within the Town if not removed. Citizens are encouraged to monitor their trees for indication of beetles, consult a registered forester or certified arborist, and if needed hire a licensed tree faller to remove trees before they become a hazard. To learn more about the California Bark Beetle Epidemic go to www.readyforwildfire.org and select the header "Bark Beetles and Dead Trees".

- **Conserve Water:**

The National Weather Service reports rainfall readings are above normal for this time of the year. Paradise rainfall total from July 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017 is 55.54 inches.

Average rainfall through the end of January is 32.56 inches. **This winter's rains are a welcome sight. Northern California is no longer considered to be in drought conditions. Residents are reminded however that water is a scarce resource and despite the recent turn around we need to continue to use this resource conservatively.** 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 "Create Defensible Space" tab on their website at www.buttefiresafe.net. Another excellent source of information for preparedness is at CAL FIRE's website at www.readyforwildfire.org and select from the headers "Prepare for Wildfire" and "Prevent Wildfire".

- **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 www.paradiserecycles.com for more information.
- The Neal Road Landfill accepts green waste the same as regular household trash at 1023 Neal Road from 7am-4pm daily. Cost is \$42.11 per ton, with a minimum fee of \$10.00. For more information call: 345-4917.
- 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.net or call 877-0984.