

## Health Effects of Wood Smoke

Smoke from wood-burning fireplaces and stoves contains tiny particles that can linger in the air. These particles are so small we inhale them deep into our lungs and they can enter the bloodstream.

Cold and still winter weather conditions can cause wood smoke to become trapped near the ground. The particle levels can build up making it difficult for people with asthma and other respiratory conditions to breathe.

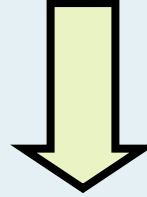
## BURN CLEAN

*Burn Dry Wood*

*Maintain Airflow*

*Burn Hot Fires*

*Recycle Yard Waste*

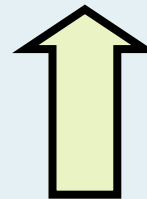


*Carpool*

*Walk*

*Bike*

*Ride the Bus*



## DRIVE LESS

BURN CLEAN...IT'S AN  
INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY!

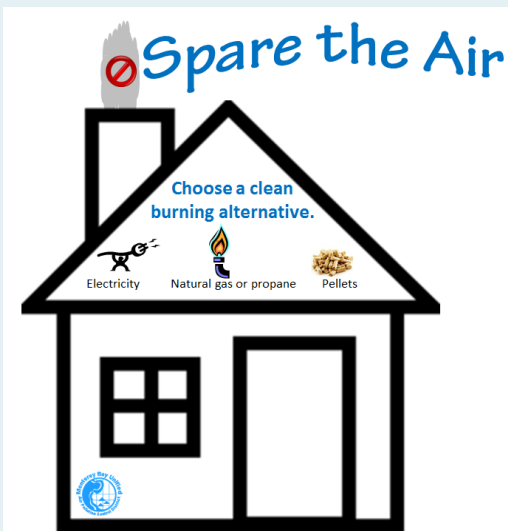
Overview of the

# Spare the Air

Program



Imagine a smoke free valley.



Contact us at:

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***The Mission of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District is to Protect Public and Environmental Health while Balancing Economic and Air Quality Considerations.***

# Spare the Air Program in San Lorenzo Valley

Each day by 3 p.m., from November through February, the Air District will issue an air quality forecast for SLV for the next day. If air quality is forecasted to be unhealthy for sensitive groups (USG) for more than one day, the Air District will send out a **Spare the Air** call to action.

## What is the **Spare the Air** program?

**Spare the Air** is a non-regulatory program to reduce wood smoke emissions on forecasted unhealthy air quality days in San Lorenzo Valley (SLV).

## What is a forecasted unhealthy air quality day?

This is a day or period of days the Air District determines the health based PM2.5 standard may be exceeded. The Air District makes the determination based on meteorological data and the air monitoring data collected in SLV.

## Where is monitoring data collected in SLV?

The Air District measures concentrations of PM2.5 in Felton, Ben Lomond, and Boulder Creek. The data can be viewed on the Air District's website for current air quality and forecast.

## Do your part.

- Choose an alternative home heating source on forecasted **Spare the Air** unhealthy air quality days.
- Spread the word about the **Spare the Air** call to action to your friends and neighbors.

## Get **Spare the Air** informed.

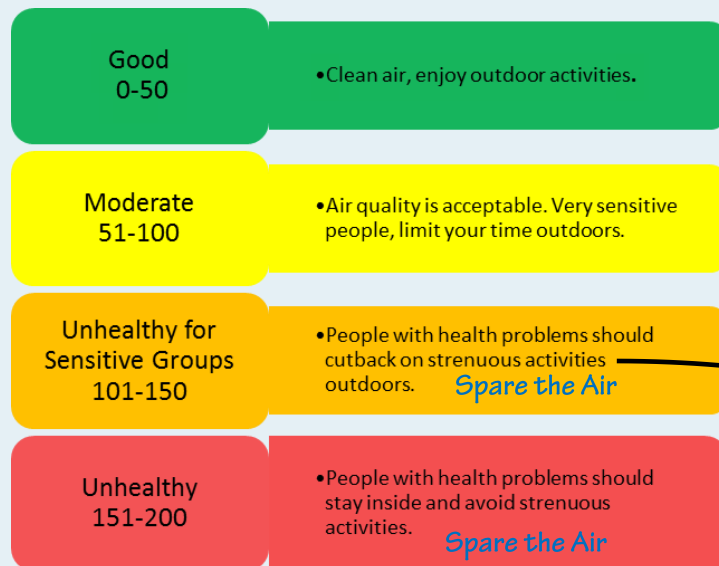
Sign up to receive a **Spare the Air** e-mail notification, check our website for daily forecast information at [air.mbuapcd.org](http://air.mbuapcd.org), or call us at (831) 647-9411.

The District is  
**NOT banning wood burning.**

To protect public health from the harmful effects of inhaling particulate matter (PM2.5), the Air District is trying to reduce smoke emissions on forecasted unhealthy air quality days due to continued exceedances of the federal PM2.5 air quality standard in SLV.



## Air Quality Index



[Check the Daily Forecast](#)

Area	Today	Tomorrow
Carmel Valley	PM2.5	PM2.5
Davenport	PM2.5	PM2.5
Hollister	PM2.5	PM2.5
King City	PM2.5	PM2.5
Marina/Seaside	PM2.5	PM2.5
Monterey Peninsula	PM2.5	PM2.5
Pinnacles National Monument	PM2.5	PM2.5
Salinas	PM2.5	PM2.5
San Lorenzo Valley	PM2.5	PM2.5
Santa Cruz	PM2.5	PM2.5
Scotts Valley	PM2.5	PM2.5
Watsonville	PM2.5	PM2.5