

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit



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**RELEASE**  
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### CAL FIRE suspends burn permits in Colusa, Napa, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo Counties

**ST. HELENA, Calif.** – After another wet winter and above average snowpack, warming temperatures and winds are quickly drying out the abundant annual grass crop. The increasing fire danger posed by the high volume of dead grass and hotter, drier conditions in the region is prompting CAL FIRE to suspend all burn permits for outdoor residential burning within the State Responsibility Areas of Colusa, Napa, Solano and Yolo County. This suspension takes effect June 26, 2023 and suspends all residential outdoor burning of landscape debris such as branches and leaves.

CAL FIRE will also be suspending all burn permits for outdoor residential burning within the State Responsibility Areas of Sonoma County, effective Monday, July 3.

“During this period we still encourage residents to work on creating that defensible space and complete home hardening projects to improve your home’s chance of surviving a wildfire should one strike near you,” Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Chief Mike Marcucci said. “Visit our website to learn what you can continue to do now, and how to do it safely, that way the best of intentions do not inadvertently create a spark that can ignite a fire.”

Since Jan. 1, 2023 CAL FIRE and firefighters across the state have already responded to over 1,943 wildfires as of the most recent reporting period, June 19. While outdoor burning of landscape debris by homeowners is no longer allowed, CAL FIRE is asking residents to take that extra time to ensure that they are prepared for wildfires by maintaining a minimum of 100 feet of Defensible Space around every home and buildings on their property and being prepared to evacuate if the time comes.

Here are some tips to help prepare homes and property:

- Clear all dead and or dying vegetation 100 feet from around all structures.
- Landscape with fire resistant plants and non-flammable ground cover.
- Find alternative ways to dispose of landscape debris like chipping or hauling it to a biomass energy or green waste facility

The department may issue restricted temporary burning permits if there is an essential reason due to public health and safety. Agriculture, land management, fire training, and other industrial-type burning may proceed if a CAL FIRE official inspects the burn site and issues a special permit.

The suspension of burn permits for residential landscape debris does not apply to campfires within organized campgrounds or on private property. Campfires may be permitted if the campfire is maintained in such a manner as to prevent its spread to the wildland. A campfire permit can be obtained at local fire stations or online at [PreventWildfireCA.org](http://PreventWildfireCA.org).

For additional information on how to create Defensible Space, on how to be prepared for wildfires, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit [www.ReadyForWildfire.org](http://www.ReadyForWildfire.org).

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