



## Southwest Clean Air Agency

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[www.swcleanair.org](http://www.swcleanair.org)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2000

### STAGNANT AIR TRIGGERS STATEWIDE BURN BAN

The National Weather Service has informed the Washington Department of Ecology that poor atmospheric circulation conditions exist over Washington and will likely continue for several days. Under these conditions poor dispersion of air pollutants is expected.

The Department of Ecology, as a precautionary step, is declaring a Forecast Stage of an air pollution episode for all counties in Washington State. The effective time of this declaration is 10:00 a.m., November 16, 2000 and remains in effect until further notice.

Citizens are reminded that it is unlawful to cause any outdoor fire under a Forecast Stage of an air pollution episode. No new outdoor fires may be ignited and existing fires shall be extinguished as soon as possible. Any citizen responsible for an outdoor fire during a Forecast Stage may be found in violation and may be subject to a civil penalty assessment by the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA).

In addition to the ban on all open burning declared by the Washington State Department of Ecology, SWCAA requests that citizens avoid the use of wood stoves and fireplaces if alternative sources of heat are available.

The people most at risk from breathing this pollution are children, the elderly, and those with respiratory and cardiopulmonary disease. Healthy adults are less affected.

Current burn ban status can be checked at any time by calling the SWCAA burn line at 1-800-633-0709.





STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600  
(360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FORECAST STAGE  
DECLARATION FOR ALL COUNTIES IN WASHINGTON  
November 16, 2000

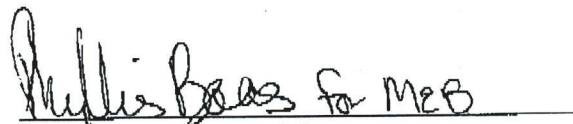
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In addition to the ban on all open burning declared by the Washington State Department of Ecology, local air pollution control authorities may declare various curtailment actions affecting the use of wood stoves and fireplaces. Local radio and TV broadcasts should be consulted for details. Citizens in these affected areas must comply with all curtailments.

To assist during this episode period, the Department of Ecology requests that in areas unaffected by local authority curtailment actions, citizens should avoid the use of wood stoves and fireplaces if alternative sources of heat are available.

  
Mary Burg, Program Manager  
Air Quality Program  
Department of Ecology



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Mary Burg, Program Manager  
Air Quality Program  
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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FORECAST STAGE CONTINUATION FOR ALL  
COUNTIES IN WASHINGTON STATE  
10:00 A.M. Friday November 17, 2000

The National Weather Service has informed the Washington Department of Ecology that the air stagnation advisory continues for most areas of Washington State.

The Department of Ecology, as a precautionary step, is continuing its Forecast Stage of an air pollution episode declared yesterday for all counties in Washington State. According to the National Weather Service we can expect this period of poor atmospheric circulation to last for several more days.

Citizens are reminded that it is unlawful to cause any outdoor fire under a Forecast Stage of an air pollution episode. No new outdoor fires may be ignited and existing shall be extinguished as soon as possible. Any citizen responsible for an outdoor fire during a Forecast Stage may be found in violation and may be subject to civil penalty assessment of up to \$10,000 per violation per day by local and/or air pollution officials.

In addition to a ban on all open burning declared by the Washington State Department of Ecology, local air pollution control authorities may have declared various curtailment actions affecting the use of wood stoves and fireplaces. Local radio and TV broadcasts should be consulted for details. Citizens in these affected areas must also comply with these curtailments.

To assist during this episode period, the Department of Ecology requests that in areas unaffected by local authority curtailment actions that citizens still avoid the use of wood stoves and fireplaces if alternative sources of heat are available.

*Mary E. Burg*  
Mary Burg, Program Manager  
Air Quality Program  
Department of Ecology

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AIR AGENCY