Imperial County Agricultural and Open Burn Program
California Health & Safety Code Section 41850 gives authorization to local Air District to reasonably regulate but “NOT” prohibit Agricultural Burning. This section also requires that the Air District adopts rules and regulations for the purposes of this article.

California Health & Safety Code Section 41855 requires the State “CARB” to determine and designate dates when burning is allowed or prohibited. As such California Health & Safety Code Section 41856 required the State “CARB” to develop guidelines for the regulation and control of agricultural burning for each air basin in the state. Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations was developed to provide Smoke Management Guidelines for Agricultural and Prescribed Burning.

To address Title 17 locally the Air District has developed a Smoke Management Program which identifies the Agricultural Burn Regulations as well as Air District Policies in place.

Locally Imperial County’s Agricultural Burning is governed by Air District Rule 701- Agricultural Burning while Air District Rule – 421 regulates Open Green Waste Burning. Open Green Waste Burning is allowed as per California Health and Safety Code Section 41800.

The Air District’s Policy 34 focuses on the procedures for allocating burn acreage, burn day decision and tracking and Policy 37 is defined as the “Good Neighbor Policy” which focuses on providing notification of possible agricultural burns to nearby residences as well as providing traffic re-routing when necessary.
Enforcement Division
Daily Weather Analysis

California Air Resources Board Meteorology Program
https://www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/met.htm

NOAA National Weather Service
https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?zoneid=CAZ567

NOAA Air Resources Laboratory
https://ready.arl.noaa.gov/READYcmet.php

Prescribed Fire Information Reporting System (PFIRS)

NOAA National Weather Service Forecast Office
https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?w0=t&w3=sfcwind&w3u=1&w6=rh&w9=mhgt&w12=twind&w12u=1&w13=f20w&w13u=1&AheadHour=6&Submit=Submit&FcastType=digital&textField1=32.82540&textField2=-115.62147&site=all&unit=0&dd=0&bw=0

CARB Aircraft Soundings (Not in Use)
https://www.arb.ca.gov/smp/met/apob.php

Imperial Valley Air Quality
http://imperialvalleyair.org/
Permissive “Agricultural” Burn Days

- **BURN DAY:** Any day on which Agricultural Burning is not prohibited by the Air Resources Board and/or the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District. Residential burns “Open Burns” are also allowed during designated “Burn Days”

- **BURNING HOURS:** Typically between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. but will be determined based on all factors that have been evaluated.

- **FIRE OUT:** Before Sunset of each day.

- **REQUIREMENTS:** Must have received authorization to burn field by the Air District and follow burning instructions given as well as those requirements found on Rule 701 – Agricultural Burning and Possibly Policy 37 – Good Neighbor Policy.
Marginal Burn Days

- **MARGINAL DESIGNATION**: A day when limited amounts of agricultural burning, including prescribed burning is not prohibited by the State. Typically throughout the year we burn a very small amount of agricultural acres on marginal days. Usually the only burns taking place are the Open Burns of residential green waste.

- **WHAT IS MARGINAL GREEN WASTE ONLY**: These are days when only vegetation grown on your property can be burned at your residence. Burns must take place outside any city limits and townships.

- **BURN HOURS FOR MARGINAL GREEN WASTE ONLY**: Typically between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. however we will look at all factors before making determination.

- **FIRE OUT**: All fires must be out by sunset of each day.
Weather Report

- Burn Day
  - Miscellaneous Burn Day
    - No Burn Day
  - Marginal Green Waste Only
- Ag. Fields
  - Marginal Green Waste Only
Based on best available information on each day, the Air District made a determination whether to burn or not to burn. As an example from January 1, 2019, to October 31, 2019, the State designated 3 No-Burn Days and 28 Marginal Burn Days while the District went ahead and prohibited burning on 129 days.
Winter Inversions

In wintertime, a temperature inversion occurs when cold air close to the ground is trapped by a layer of warmer air. As the inversion continues, air becomes stagnant and pollution becomes trapped close to the ground.
Illegal Burn

- BURNING HOUSEHOLD TRASH: Except as otherwise provided herein, no Person shall use Open Outdoor Fires for the purpose of disposal or burning of petroleum wastes, demolition debris, tires, tar, trees, wood waste, trash or other combustible or flammable solid or liquid waste; or for metal salvage or burning of Motor Vehicle bodies. (Rule 421 B)
Imperial County Aerial Map
400 Agricultural Acres Max Per Quadrant
APCD BURN HOURS

Burn Day
Tuesday, August 28, 2018
Hours:
From: 10:00 AM
To: 3:00 PM
Winds:
AM HOURS: W 5
PM HOURS: W 10-15
Marginal Green Waste Only
Total pages including cover: 1
For any questions contact APCD at (442) 265-1800 OR (888) 547-2876

APCD BURN HOURS

No Burn Day
Tuesday, August 21, 2018
Hours:
From:
To:
Winds:
AM HOURS: SE 5-10
PM HOURS: SE 5-10
Total pages including cover: 1
For any questions contact APCD at (442) 265-1800 OR (888) 547-2876

APCD BURN HOURS

Marginal Green Waste Only
Monday, August 27, 2018
Hours:
From: 10:00 AM
To: 3:00 PM
Winds:
AM HOURS: W 5
PM HOURS: W 10-15
Total pages including cover: 1
For any questions contact APCD at (442) 265-1800 OR (888) 547-2876
ICAPCD AGRICULTURAL FIELD BURNING  
Tuesday, August 28, 2018

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<th>TIME</th>
<th>CANAL AND GATE</th>
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<td>HOLTVILLE</td>
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<td>(860) 427-1504</td>
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ICAPCD MISCELLANEOUS BURNS  
Monday, August 27, 2018

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<td>(760) 466-3761</td>
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<td>ENRIQUE BARRIOSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>EL CENTRO</td>
<td>WANDA SMITH</td>
<td>(760) 466-6383</td>
<td>1835 FORRESTER RD</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOLTVILLE</td>
<td>DIANE GARIBALDI</td>
<td>(760) 398-6476</td>
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<td>MIKE ITIEN</td>
<td>MIKE ITIEN</td>
<td>(760) 427-1226</td>
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<td>PAULA MARQUEZ</td>
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<td>MILAND</td>
<td>WPR IMPERIAL VALLEY, LLC</td>
<td>(552) 426-6884</td>
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SALTON CITY
Total Agricultural Fields Burned Per Year & Total Number of Fields Participating in ERC Program

Agricultural Acres Burned in Imperial County 2003-2018

Agricultural Acres Not Burned and Participated in ERC Program 2015-2018
Policy 34 Key Revisions

- The daily total acres to be burned has been reduced from 2,000 acres to 1,600 acres per day or 400 acres per quadrant.

- To reduce smoke impacts from large fields (> 70 acres), prioritization will be given to “smaller acreage burns” during approved burn days. To accomplish this, growers can choose to cut up a field in half or in quarters in order to get burning priority. Cutting up the field into smaller sections can be done thru disking (wheat fields) or utilizing a water truck (grass fields). Disking would require the farmer/operator to make a pass thru the middle of the field and cutting it in half or in quarter. A water truck can be utilized to spray water thru the middle of the grass fields.

- For the purposes of protecting the public from potential health impacts from agricultural burning, those fields that are within (2) miles of a residential area, rural schools or adjacent to heavily traveled roads will be considered as “Special Burns” and will require and Air District Inspector to be present and give approval before the burn may be started.

- It is the District’s policy that agricultural burning within 2 miles of a school be minimized to the fullest extent possible on days when school is in session. Burns within 2 miles of a school will be prioritized for weekends, holidays or schools closures. On days when schools are closed, the Air District will attempt to prioritize the burning of those fields within the 2 miles of a school.
Thank You

Contact Information

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(442)265–1800