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Serving Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties

MONTEREY BAY AIR RESOURCES DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

MBARD Announces Spare the Air Program November 26, 2025 - Monterey, California

Starting on December 1, 2025, the Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD) will begin announcing wintertime Spare the Air alerts for the San Lorenzo Valley in Santa Cruz County. During a Spare the Air alert, MBARD will ask residents to choose an alternative home heating source such as electricity, propane, natural gas, or pellets. MBARD will send out notifications by 3:00 pm on days when conditions warrant a Spare the Air alert. Conditions include colder temperatures and a temperature inversion, which traps wood smoke pollution close to the ground.

MBARD is implementing this voluntary program to address unhealthy air quality conditions that may occur in the San Lorenzo Valley. Public awareness and response are critical to help reduce pollution levels during stagnant winter conditions.

MBARD requests that news services include Spare the Air alerts in weather and news broadcasts using the orange logo. The program will run from December through February.

Please call our office at (831) 647-9411 with any questions and/or concerns. To sign up for email alerts, please visit our website at www.mbard.org and click "Subscribe to Email Lists" under the "I Want To" menu.



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