

Summary of the Burn Barrel ATCM for the Loyalton Area and Throughout Sierra County

In 2003 the State passed the “Airborne Toxic Control Measure to Reduce Emissions of Toxic Air Contaminants from Outdoor Residential Waste Burning” (California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 93113), commonly known as the “Burn Barrel ATCM,” which is enforced by local air districts. The ATCM bans the outdoor burning of household garbage statewide, and uses a Zip Code-based population-density approach to specify where burn barrels and similar devices may be used (less than 3 people per square mile) and where the burning of dry, non-glossy paper and cardboard may occur (less than 10 people per square mile).

The ATCM prohibits the use of burn barrels in the Loyalton area, including all of Zip Codes 96118 and 96126. Further, in the City of Loyalton it is illegal to engage in outdoor burning of anything other than dry natural vegetation originating on the premises. However, in the remainder of Zip Codes 96118 and 96126 it is permissible to burn dry, non-glossy paper and cardboard.

Regarding Sierra County as a whole, the use of burn barrels is prohibited in Zip Codes 96118, 96126, 89439, 96125, 95936, 95922, 96124, 95944 and 95960. In addition, the burning of dry, non-glossy paper and cardboard is prohibited in Zip Codes 96124, 95944, 95960 and the City of Loyalton.