



South Coast AQMD Agricultural Burning Rule

Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Protection Program - Eastern Coachella Valley

Rule 444 Open Burning minimizes emissions from open burning to protect public health and safety.

This rule applies to:



Agricultural burning



Emergency burning to prevent crops from freezing



Fire department training



Burning required to reduce fire hazard



Tumbleweed disposal



Other

Agricultural Burning Requirements

Agricultural burning:

- must be at least 1,000 feet away from homes, schools, daycare centers, and hospitals
- must begin one hour after sunrise and be finished two hours before sunset
- must be less than 41 acres per day
- must contain only agricultural waste (free of dirt, soil, and other debris)
- must be lit with an approved device (does not produce black smoke)



Waste allowed to be burned*

- Citrus
- Fruit bearing trees
- Grape vines
- Date palm fronds
- Brush
- Vegetables
- Other land clearing for agricultural operations (e.g., tamarisk scrub)

*All agricultural waste must be free of trash, non-agricultural waste, dirt, soil, and visible moisture.



Waste NOT allowed to be burned

- Trash, plastics, tires, oil filters
- Pallets, chemically treated wood
- Material with asbestos
- Packaging material
- Pesticide and fertilizer containers
- Construction and demolition material
- Ornamental or landscape vegetation (e.g., grass, weeds, and trimmings)

Agricultural Burn Permit Process

1 Burn Management Plan & Pre-Burn Inspection



Submit a Burn Management Plan and request a Pre-Burn Inspection from the South Coast AQMD by calling (909) 396-3403.

2 The Day Before a Burn



Obtain a Burn Authorization Number from the South Coast AQMD by calling (909) 396-3403 before 4:00 p.m.

3 Contact Local Fire Department



After receiving a Burn Authorization Number, contact your local fire department the morning of the burn to see if burning is allowed.

4 Burn and Report Back



Follow rule requirements and use best practices to reduce emissions.

Submit an annual burn report including information such as material(s) burned, amount burned, and the total emissions.



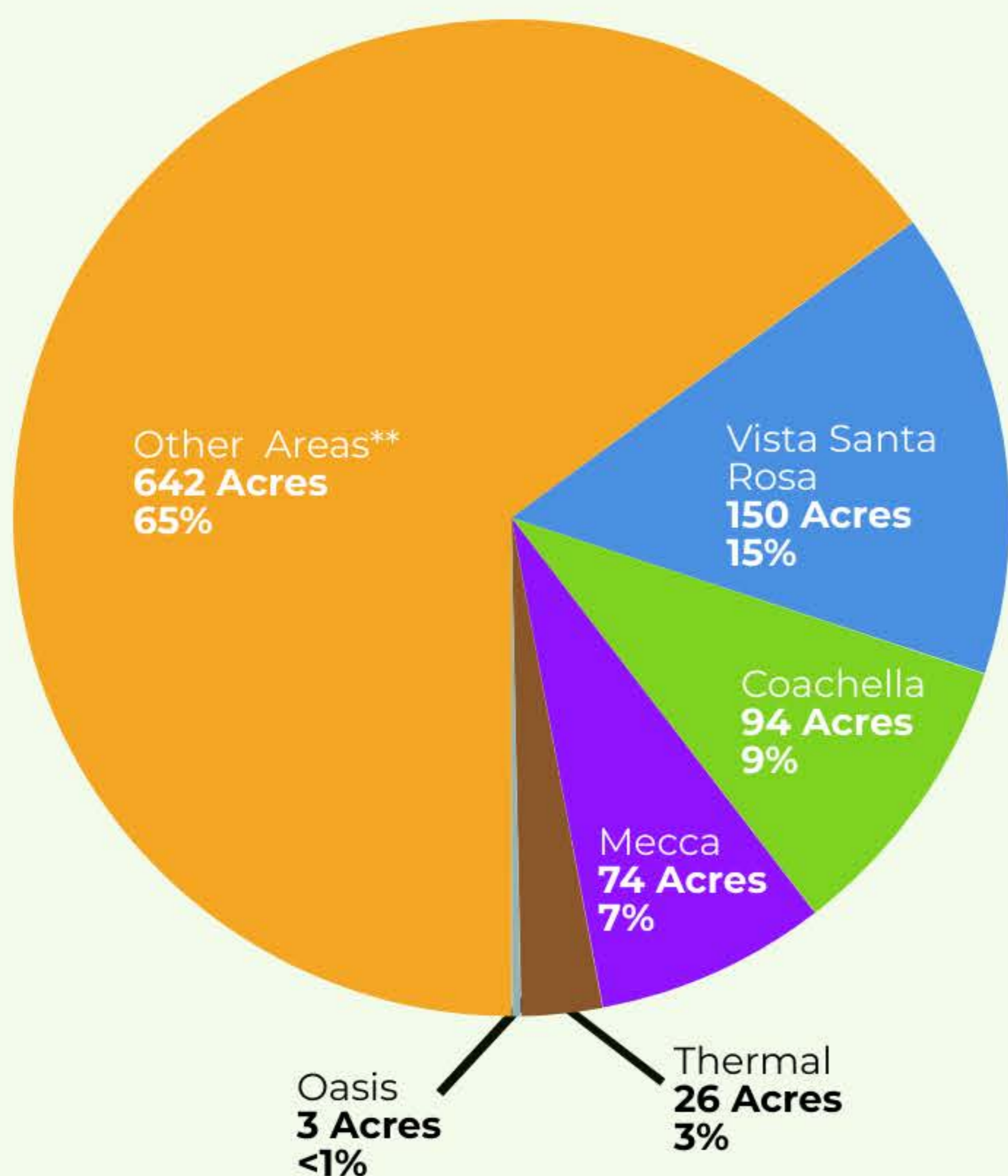
Agricultural Burning in Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV)

Emissions from Agricultural Burning in ECV in Tons Per Year (tons/year)*

	VOC** (tons/year)	NOx** (tons/year)	CO** (tons/year)	PM10** (tons/year)	PM2.5** (tons/year)
Agricultural Burning	2.15	24.87	1.43	2.97	2.82

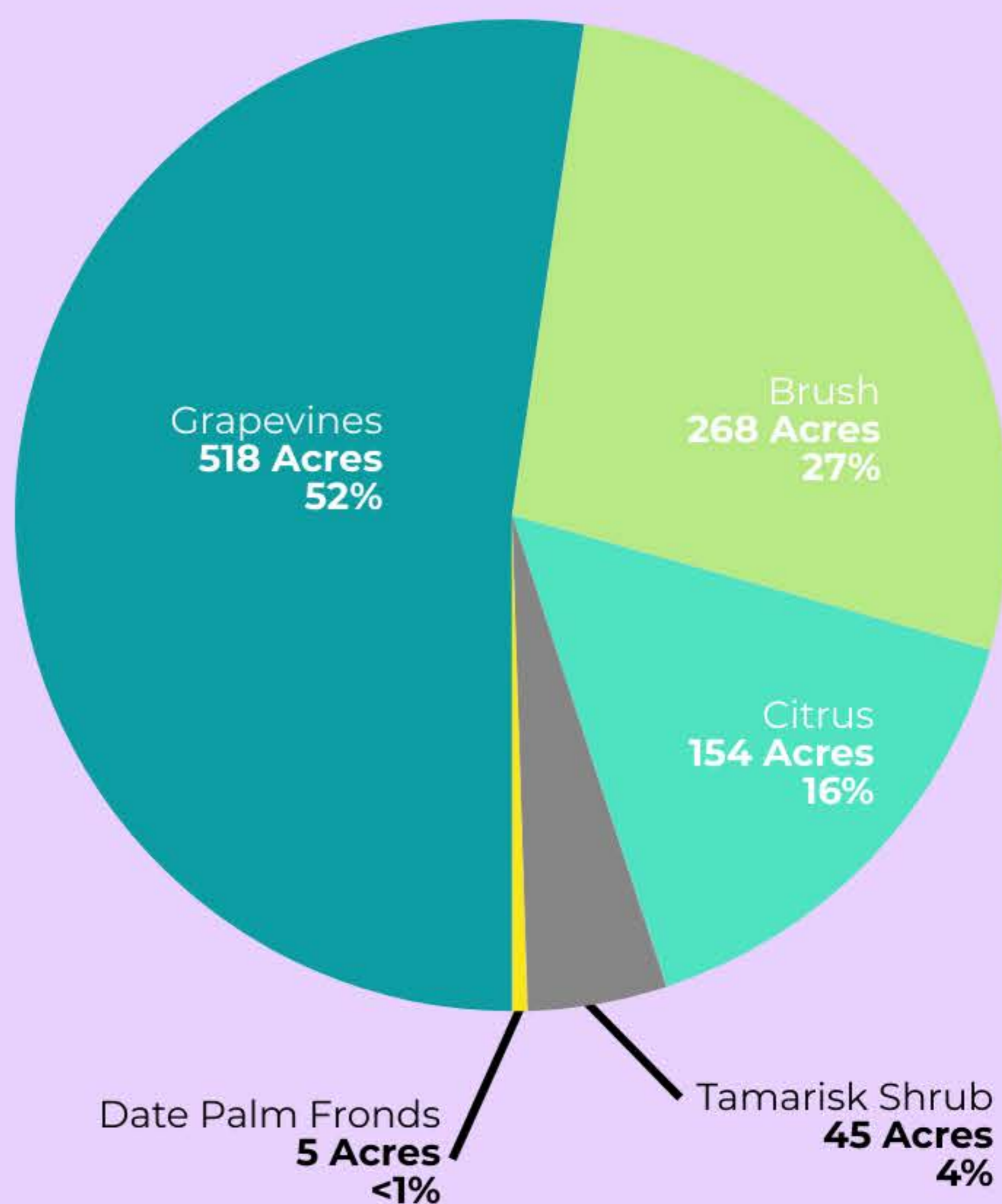
*Emissions data from 2017 was developed by South Coast AQMD staff and based on agricultural burn permits.
 **VOC = volatile organic compounds; NOx = nitrogen oxides; CO = carbon monoxide; PM10 = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; PM2.5 = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter.

Acres Burned in ECV by Location - Year 2017*



*Data does not include burns on tribal lands, nor burns that are not permitted by the South Coast AQMD (e.g., illegal burns).
 **Areas outside cities and census designated places.

Type of Materials Burned in ECV - Year 2017



Who do I call if I see burning that is not allowed?

County of Riverside Fire Department: 760-396-2173
 City of Coachella Fire Department: 760-398-8895
 City of Indio Fire Department: 760-347-0726
 South Coast AQMD: 1-800-CUT-SMOG or 1-800-288-7664

For additional information on South Coast AQMD's Open Burn Program please visit: www.aqmd.gov/open-burn