



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178  
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

---

## NEWS

**For Immediate Release**  
**August 25, 2017**

### **Unhealthy to Very Unhealthy Air Quality Expected to Accompany Heat Wave**

High temperatures are expected to persist over the next several days throughout the South Coast Air Basin, increasing the likelihood of **Unhealthy** to **Very Unhealthy** air quality in many areas.

Levels of ground-level ozone – the predominant summertime pollutant – are most likely to reach the **Unhealthy** to **Very Unhealthy** level in the Santa Clarita Valley, the San Gabriel Mountains, portions of the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys, the Inland Empire and the San Bernardino Mountains.

While poor air quality is not unusual during summer months in the Southland, the National Weather Service is predicting a heat wave over the Southwest that will last through at least the middle of next week. Those conditions coupled with predicted atmospheric inversions that trap pollution near the surface may cause unusually high and persistent levels of poor air quality.

When air quality is **Unhealthy** and reaches an air quality index (AQI) range of 151 to 200, everyone may begin to experience some adverse health effects, and persons with a higher sensitivity level may experience more serious effects. When air quality is **Very Unhealthy** with an AQI range of 201 to 300, everyone in the region may experience more serious health effects.

Ozone air pollution can cause respiratory health problems, including trouble breathing, asthma attacks, and lung damage. Research also indicates that ozone exposure can increase the risk of premature death. Children, older adults, and people with asthma or COPD may be more sensitive to the health effects of ozone.

**Southern California residents should consider the following measures during hot weather months:**

- Check the air quality forecast and AQI in your area;
- Limit or reduce the intensity of outdoor physical activity when the AQI is forecast to be unhealthy;

- Schedule strenuous outdoor activity in the early morning or late evening when ozone levels are lower;
- If you have asthma, follow your asthma action plans and keep quick relief medication handy.

To receive real-time air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, subscribe at <http://AirAlerts.org>

SCAQMD Advisory updates can be found at <http://www.aqmd.gov>

To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <http://www3.aqmd.gov/webappl/gisaqi2/home.aspx>

The SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

###