



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 2, 2019

South Coast AQMD Issues Air Quality Advisory Due To Fireworks

Valid Thursday July 04, 2019 and Friday July 05, 2019

This advisory is in effect through Friday morning. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

Air quality is likely to reach unhealthy levels in areas throughout the South Coast Air Basin and in the Coachella Valley on July 4th through July 5th. Fireworks are known to emit high levels of particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) as well as metal air pollutants, all of which can contribute to negative health effects. From the evening of Thursday, July 4th through the morning of Friday, July 5th, the Air Quality Index may reach the **Very Unhealthy** air quality category or higher, due to fireworks related to Independence Day celebrations. The use of personal "backyard" fireworks also contributes to this air pollution and can further increase how much air pollution a person is breathing.

Fine particulate matter levels on July 4th and July 5th are typically among the worst (highest) days of the year in the South Coast Air Basin. The smoke and combustion products from fireworks add to the fine particles already present in the Basin that are primarily caused by motor vehicles, as well as fugitive dust and industrial emissions.

What to Do When Air Pollution Reaches Unhealthy Levels:

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups Air Quality Index (AQI) is 101 - 150. Although the general public is not likely to be affected at this AQI range, people with heart or lung disease, older adults and children are at a greater risk from exposure to air pollution. People with heart or lung disease, older adults and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Unhealthy AQI is 151 - 200. Everyone may begin to experience some adverse health effects, and members of the sensitive groups may experience more serious effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Very Unhealthy AQI is 201 - 300. This would trigger a health alert signifying that everyone may experience more serious health effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.



- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see www.aqmd.gov/aqimap
- Air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow @SouthCoastAQMD on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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