



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 15, 2019

South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to a Debris Fire in Coachella Valley

Valid: Tuesday, October 15 through Wednesday, October 16, 2019

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

A large debris fire is burning in the city of Thermal in the Coachella Valley. The burn area was last listed at 20 acres with no containment and is expected to burn for the next several days. Currently the fire is producing heavy smoke, which is leading to elevated PM_{2.5} concentrations at low-cost sensors located nearby. Wind speeds are predicted to be light and from the southeast throughout Tuesday afternoon. Winds will be from the northwest during the evening and overnight through Wednesday morning. Winds will shift around noon on Wednesday to come from the southeast. If the fire continues to generate smoke, impacts are expected to continue throughout the Coachella Valley. Overall, meteorological conditions may bring smoke and ash into portions of the Coachella Valley. Air quality may reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

- **Riverside County:** Coachella Valley (Area 30)



In any area impacted by smoke: If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD's Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: <http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips>.

- 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
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- 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, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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