



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 17, 2021

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## South Coast AQMD Issues Special Air Quality Advisory Due to Prescribed Burns in Ontario

**Valid Thursday March 18, 2021**

*This advisory is in effect through Thursday evening. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.*

On Thursday, unexploded fireworks from a fatal residential explosion on the 400 block of West Francis Street in Ontario will be burned. Prescribed burns conducted by bomb squad technicians and firefighters will begin at 7 AM and are expected to continue throughout the day. Fireworks and their combustion products are known to emit high levels of particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10) as well as metal air pollutants, all of which can contribute to negative health effects.

Smoke is expected throughout the day on Thursday. Winds from the west will push smoke towards the east. Smoke conditions may improve throughout the day as wind speeds increase and the smoke is mixed higher in the atmosphere. Neighborhoods directly downwind of the fire may experience **Unhealthy** air quality at times on Thursday.

**In any area impacted by smoke:** If you smell or see smoke due to a fire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed if you are not under evacuation orders or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a fire, see South Coast AQMD's Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: <http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips>

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

- **San Bernardino County:** Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33)



- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: [www.aqmd.gov/advisory](http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory)
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to [www.AirAlerts.org](http://www.AirAlerts.org)
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <http://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](http://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 major portions of Los Angeles, Orange, 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](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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