

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 23, 2023 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Bernard Parks, (909) 396-3127, Cell: (909) 414-6309 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Northern California Wildfires

Valid Saturday 12:00 PM until Sunday 11:59 PM

Current Conditions

- Smoke from fires in Northern California is currently being blown toward the South Coast Air Basin, causing elevated PM2.5 levels throughout the Basin
- Information about the fires is available at InciWeb
- Monitors and low-cost sensors throughout the South Coast Air Basin are currently measuring Moderate Air Quality Index (AQI) levels

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the <u>South Coast AQMD app</u> or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u>.



Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Smoke impacts are expected throughout the South Coast Air basin on Saturday and Sunday
- PM2.5 levels may approach or exceed Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups levels at times
- PM2.5 levels are expected to be highest overnight and early morning on Sunday
- Even if you don't smell smoke there may be smoke in your area, especially if the smoke is transported long distances. Check the South Coast AQMD current AQI map at www.aqmd.gov/aqimap or on the South Coast AQMD app to see current AQI levels and take appropriate actions to reduce your exposure.

During periods of poor air quality due to high particulate pollution:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do not use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Avoid burning wood in your fireplace or firepit and minimize sources of indoor air pollution such as candles, incense, pan-frying, and grilling.

For more information, see the EPA Guide for Particle Pollution (PDF).

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> (formerly known as Twitter) and <u>Instagram</u>.

###