

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 27, 2023

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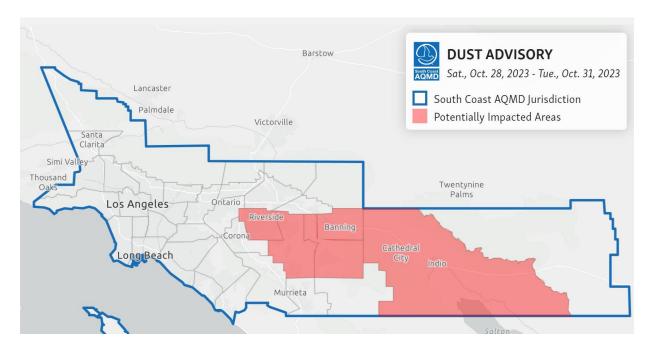
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## South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and Parts of the Inland Empire

Valid through 6:00 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023

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**

- Periods of elevated particle pollution (PM10) levels in the Coachella Valley and parts of the Inland Empire are expected starting Saturday afternoon and lasting until Tuesday morning
- Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are Very Unhealthy or worse

- High PM10 levels in the region are a result of gusty Santa Ana winds, which can lift dust and soil into the air
- The highest PM10 levels are expected in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass area
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions
- As of Friday afternoon, the National Weather Service (NWS) has posted Wind Advisories, High Wind Watches and Warnings, and Fire Weather Watches across the area. Visit the NWS San Diego <a href="https://www.weather.gov/sgx">www.weather.gov/sgx</a> and NWS Los Angeles <a href="https://www.weather.gov/lox">www.weather.gov/lox</a> websites for more information

## **Detailed Forecast**

Saturday afternoon	High PM10 levels are expected to begin when gusty winds from the northeast start to affect the area
Saturday evening until Sunday night	Very Unhealthy or worse AQI levels are possible in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass area with Unhealthy or worse AQI levels possible in the Inland Empire
Monday	Unhealthy or worse AQI levels are possible in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass area with Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or worse AQI levels possible in the Inland Empire

## If you are in an area impacted by windblown dust or ash:

- 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.
- Help minimize dust pollution by stabilizing loose soils and slowing down if driving on dirt roads.
- 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 <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, X (formerly known as Twitter) and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.