



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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@SouthCoastAQMD    

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** February 21, 2023

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## **South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Portions of the Coachella Valley and Eastern Riverside County**

**Valid Tuesday February 21, 2023 through Wednesday February 22, 2023**

*This advisory is in effect through Wednesday at 6 PM. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.*

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect from 4 PM Tuesday through 6 PM on Wednesday evening due to strong winds in the Coachella Valley and Eastern Riverside County. As of Tuesday morning, the National Weather Service (NWS) has posted High Wind Warnings and Wind Advisories in the region. Visit the NWS San Diego (<https://www.weather.gov/sgx/>) and NWS Phoenix (<https://www.weather.gov/psr/>) websites for information regarding these high wind warnings and advisories.

High winds can lift dust and soil and lead to poor air quality. Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or worse. Air quality can vary hour by hour and by location depending on wind conditions.

In areas directly impacted by high levels of windblown dust, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity. Run an air purifier if you have one and avoid using whole house fans or swamp coolers that bring in outside air.

Exposure to high particle pollution levels can cause serious health problems, including asthma attacks, heart and lung disease symptoms, and increased risk of respiratory infections. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctor's advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Children, older adults, and people with respiratory or heart disease should avoid prolonged exposure and strenuous activities when particle pollution levels are high.

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

- **Riverside County:** Coachella Valley (Area 30), East Riverside County (Area 31)



**In areas directly impacted by windblown dust:** Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly, and children should remain indoors.

- 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)
- Hourly air quality forecasts can be found: via our smartphone app (for iOS and Android) or on our website at [www.aqmd.gov/aqdata](http://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata)
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see [www.aqmd.gov/aqdata](http://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata)
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>
- For South Coast AQMD Daily Rule 403.1 High Wind Forecasts for the Coachella Valley: call (909) 396-2399 or 1-800-CUT-SMOG

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 [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/aqmd), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/aqmd) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/aqmd).