

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 21, 2023

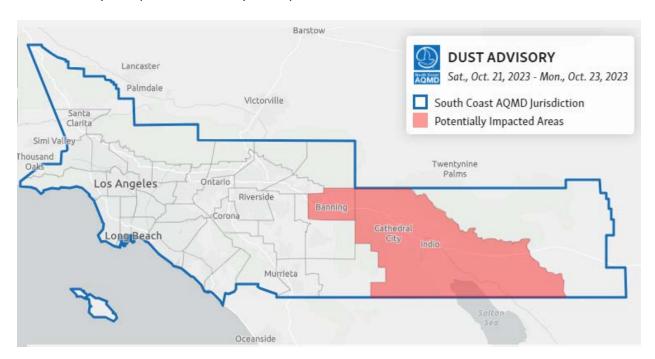
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South Coast AQMD Issues a Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass

Valid: Saturday 5:00 p.m. until Monday 12:00 p.m.



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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

• Periods of elevated particle pollution (PM10) levels in the Coachella Valley and the San Gorgonio Pass area are expected starting Saturday evening and lasting until Monday 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 winds, which can lift dust and soil into the air
- The highest PM10 levels are expected in the San Gorgonio Pass and in the Eastern Coachella Valley
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions
- Recent dust events in the Coachella Valley have been difficult to predict. The public is encouraged to pay close attention to real-time air quality conditions

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 www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram.