



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

www.aqmd.gov

@SouthCoastAQMD    

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 7, 2022

MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Extends Ozone Advisory Due to Heat Wave

Valid: Wednesday, September 7 through Thursday, September 8, 2022

This advisory is in effect through 7 p.m. Thursday. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

The National Weather Service has issued Excessive Heat Warnings across the region, increasing the likelihood of poor air quality in many areas. See <https://www.weather.gov/SGX> and <https://www.weather.gov/LOX> for more information on this heat wave.

South Coast AQMD initially issued an ozone advisory on Monday, August 29 and is now extending it through Thursday September 8. Despite the threat of heat on Friday as well, winds from the east will strengthen as the remnants of Hurricane Kay approach Southern California and keep ozone below advisory levels. To view current air quality conditions, visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap>.

Note that the above map also reflects fine particle pollution (PM_{2.5}) concentrations, which are expected to be high in different areas on account of wildfires. See <http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory>.

Levels of ground-level ozone (smog) – the predominant summertime pollutant – are likely to reach **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** and **Unhealthy** Air Quality Index (AQI) levels or higher in inland areas of the South Coast Air Basin Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Even worse air quality is expected in the San Bernardino Mountains and San Bernardino Valley with **Very Unhealthy** AQI levels possible in the afternoon hours. This has been a prolonged event with poor air quality each afternoon in much of the region except by the coast and in the Coachella Valley, where favorable winds have made ozone less of a concern.

Elevated temperatures increase emissions of chemicals leading to ozone formation and enhance ozone formation rates. This long duration and intense heat wave will continue to cause unusually high and persistent levels of ozone pollution. Ozone air pollution can cause respiratory health problems, including trouble breathing, asthma attacks, and lung damage. Research also indicates that ozone exposure can increase the risk of premature death. Children, older adults, and people with asthma or COPD may be more sensitive to the health effects of ozone.

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

- **Los Angeles County:** Central Los Angeles (Area 1), Southeast LA County (Area 5), West San Fernando Valley (Area 6), East San Fernando Valley (Area 7), West San Gabriel Valley (Area 8), East San Gabriel Valley (Area 9), Pomona-Walnut Valley (Area 10), South San Gabriel Valley (Area 11), South Central Los Angeles County (Area 12), Santa Clarita Valley (Area 13), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)
- **Orange County:** Northern Orange County (Area 16), Central Orange County (Area 17), Saddleback Valley (Area 19)
- **Riverside County:** Corona-Norco (Area 22), Metropolitan Riverside County (Area 23), Perris Valley (Area 24), Lake Elsinore (Area 25), Temecula Valley (Area 26), Anza Valley (Area 27), Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28), San Geronio Pass (Area 29)
- **San Bernardino County:** Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), East San Bernardino Valley (Area 35), West San Bernardino Mountains (Area 36), Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37), East San Bernardino Mountains (Area 38)



- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to <http://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: <http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp>
- Hourly air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>. Check the hourly air quality forecast and the "Cleanest Time of Day" to help plan outdoor activities when the air quality is better.
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>

What To Do When Air Pollution Reaches Unhealthy Levels:

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups: Air Quality Index (AQI) is 101 - 150. Although the general public is not likely to be affected at this AQI range, people with heart or lung disease, older adults and children are at a greater risk from exposure to air pollution. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Unhealthy: AQI is 151 - 200. Everyone may begin to experience some adverse health effects, and members of the sensitive groups may experience more serious effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Very Unhealthy: AQI is 201 - 300. Everyone may experience more serious health effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.

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](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

###