

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 23, 2024 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 Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and Banning Pass

Valid until Sunday 7:00 a.m.



Current Conditions

• Windblown dust particle pollution levels (PM10) reached **Moderate** Air Quality Index (AQI) levels from Wednesday afternoon onward.

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

- Windblown dust is expected to cause Air Quality Index (AQI) values to reach **Unhealthy** levels or higher between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning
- AQI levels will vary over time and by location depending on wind speed and direction
- AQI levels will likely be highest in the afternoon and evening hours
- South Coast AQMD will issue an update if poor air quality is expected to persist

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 <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>.

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