

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 17, 2025

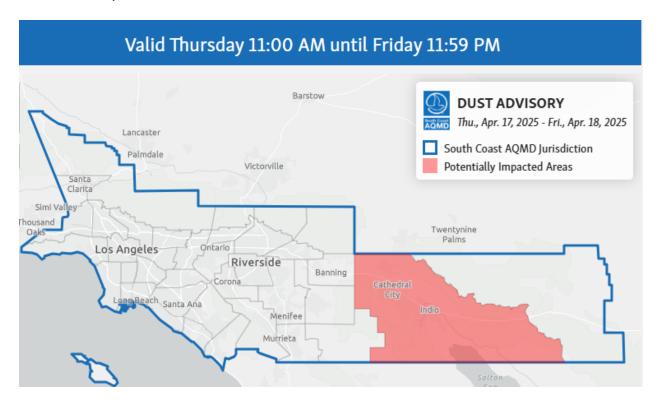
MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Rainbow Yeung, (909) 396-3373, Cell: (909) 967-2477

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Extends a Windblown Dust Advisory for Coachella Valley

Valid until Friday 11:59 PM



Current Conditions

From Tuesday evening through Thursday morning, the PM10 (dust)Air Quality Index (AQI) categories in the Coachella Valley ranged from Good to Hazardous. Northern Cathedral City saw the worst air quality due to its close proximity to the blows and region, and Palm Springs experienced better air quality than other cities, thanks to its wind-sheltered location.

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

- Blowing dust may result in PM10 levels in the **Very Unhealthy** or higher AQI categories in the Coachella Valley. Expect elevated PM10 levels at times through late Friday night, especially in the northwestern part of the valley.
- The area around Indio where crowds are expected for the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival will likely experience **Unhealthy** air on Thursday with gradual improvement on Friday.
- The Palm Springs area will likely see **Good** to **Moderate** AQI levels.
- Gusty winds can lift dust and soil into the air, resulting in high PM10 levels in the region.
- Winds from the west and northwest with gusts up to 50 mph are predicted
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

Detailed Forecast

Thursday afternoon	PM10 levels are predicted to range from Moderate to Very Unhealthy or higher AQI categories at times in the northwestern Coachella Valley. The Indio area will likely see Good to Unhealthy AQI categories.
Thursday night and early Friday morning	Expect AQI categories ranging from Good to Unhealthy or higher at times in the northwestern Coachella Valley. The Indio area will experience Good to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI categories.
Friday daytime and evening	PM10 levels are predicted to range from Good to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher AQI categories at times. This includes the area around Indio. Air quality will improve slowly as winds begin to subside after sunset.

South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

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.