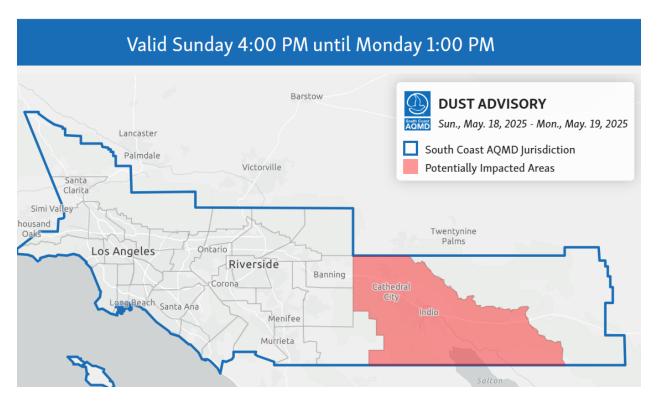


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 18, 2025 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Jack Chin, (909) 396-2075, Cell: (909) 489-3957 press@aqmd.gov

# South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Coachella Valley

Valid until Monday 1:00 PM



## **Current Conditions**

- Since Saturday morning, the Air Quality Index (AQI) in the Coachella Valley ranged from **Good** to **Hazardous**, mainly due to windblown dust (PM10).
- Wind gusts up to 66 mph were measured in the Northwestern Coachella Valley on Saturday.

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**

- Winds from the west with gusts up to 48 mph are predicted in the northwestern Coachella Valley below the San Gorgonio Pass.
- Gusty winds can lift dust and soil into the air, resulting in high particle pollution (PM10) levels in the region.
- Blowing dust may result in PM10 levels in the Very Unhealthy or higher air quality index (AQI) categories in the Coachella Valley.
- Expect elevated PM10 levels at times through Monday morning, especially in the northwestern part of the valley.
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions.

## **Detailed Forecast**

| Sunday evening to Monday<br>morning | Wind gusts are expected to remain strong overnight. AQI categories<br>are predicted to range from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Very Unhealthy</b> or higher<br>at times, with the highest AQI expected in the northwestern<br>Coachella Valley. |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday daytime                      | Winds will die down before noon, improving air quality. Expect AQI categories in the <b>Good</b> to <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> range.   |

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 <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>.