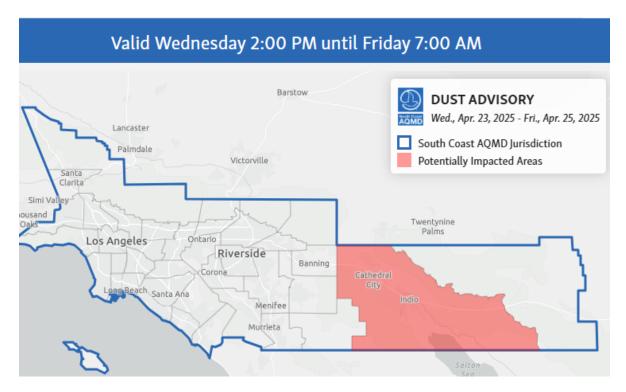


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 23, 2025 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Rainbow Yeung, (909) 396-3373, Cell: (909) 967-2477 press@aqmd.gov

# South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Coachella Valley

Valid until Friday 7:00 AM



# **Current Conditions**

• From Tuesday evening through Wednesday 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 early Friday morning, especially in the northwestern part of the valley.
- 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 45 mph are predicted.
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions.

# **Detailed Forecast**

Wednesday afternoon	PM10 levels are predicted to range from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive</b> <b>Groups</b> or higher AQI categories at times, especially in the northwestern Coachella Valley.
Wednesday night and early Thursday morning	Expect AQI categories ranging from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Very Unhealthy</b> or higher at times in the northwestern Coachella Valley. Palm Springs, Indio and Mecca area will experience <b>Good</b> to <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> AQI categories.
Thursday daytime and evening	PM10 levels are predicted to improve during the day as winds subside temporarily.
Thursday night and early Friday morning	Expect AQI categories ranging from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Unhealthy</b> or higher at times in the northwestern Coachella Valley. Palm Springs, Indio and Mecca area will experience <b>Good</b> to <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> AQI categories.

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>.