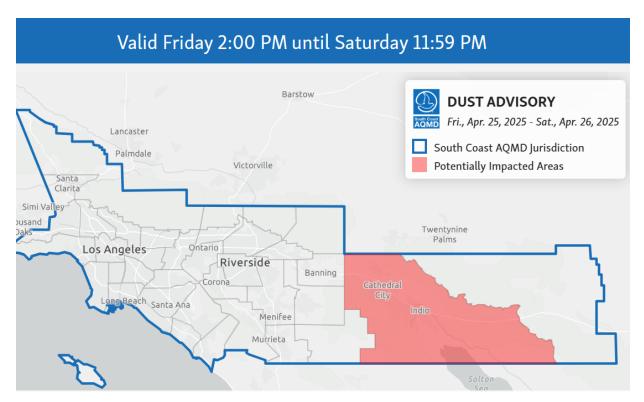


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 25, 2025 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Rainbow Yeung, (909) 396-3373, Cell: (909) 967-2477 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Coachella Valley

Valid until Saturday 11:59 PM



Current Conditions

• From Wednesday evening through Friday afternoon, the PM10 (dust)Air Quality Index (AQI) categories in the Coachella Valley ranged from **Good** to **Hazardous.** Palm Springs and Northern Cathedral City experienced the best and worst air quality, respectively.

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 Saturday night, 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 50 mph are predicted
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

Detailed Forecast

| Friday afternoon and evening | PM10 levels are predicted to range from Moderate to Unhealthy or higher AQI categories at times, with the highest AQI expected in the northwestern Coachella Valley. |
|---|---|
| Friday night and early Saturday morning | Expect AQI categories ranging from Moderate to Very Unhealthy or higher at times in the northwestern Coachella Valley. Palm Springs, Indio and Mecca will experience Good to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI categories. |
| Saturday daytime | PM10 levels are predicted to improve during the day as winds subside temporarily. |
| Saturday late afternoon through midnight | Expect AQI categories ranging from Moderate to Unhealthy or higher at times in the northwestern Coachella Valley. Palm Springs, Indio and Mecca will experience Good to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups 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>.