



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 2, 2026

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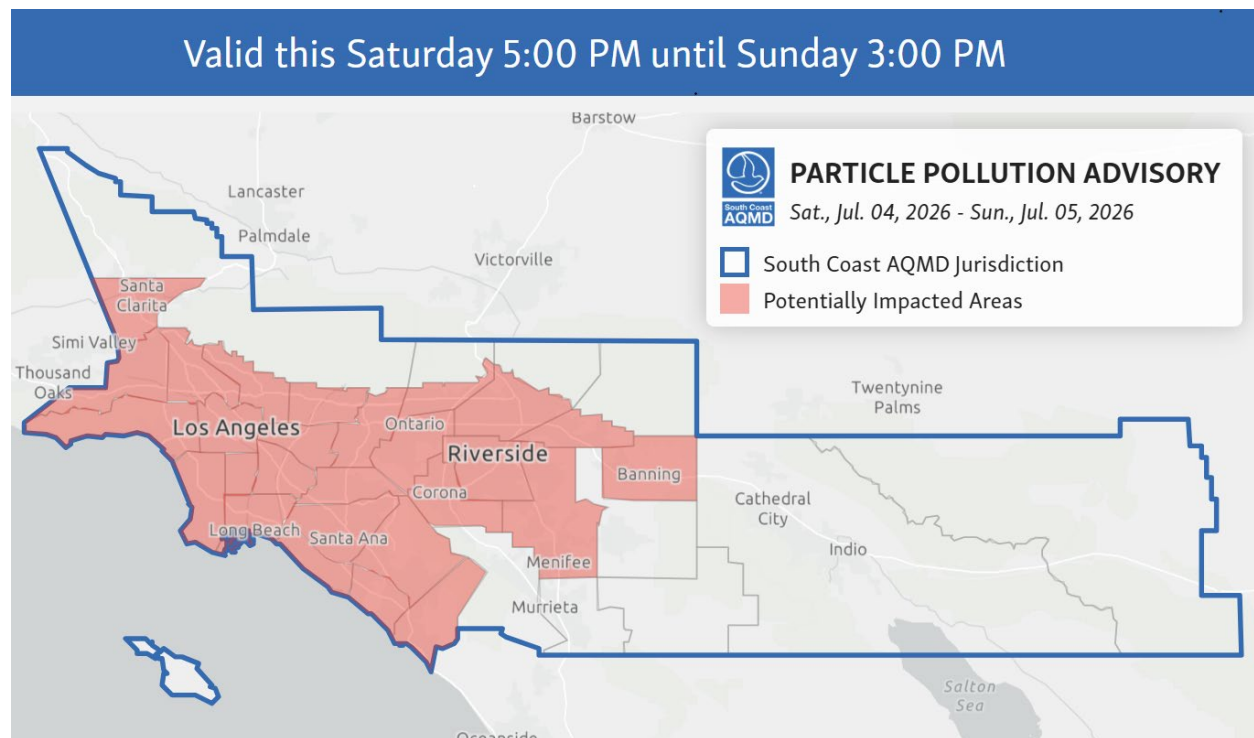
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Particle Advisory due to 4th of July Fireworks

Valid Saturday 5:00 PM until Sunday 3:00 PM



Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

Independence Day fireworks are expected to cause poor air quality throughout most of Los Angeles and Orange Counties and the Inland Empire on Saturday night and most of the day Sunday.

- The Air Quality Index (AQI) may reach **Hazardous** at times in Southern Los Angeles County including Downtown, San Gabriel Valley, Northern Orange County, Riverside, and San Bernardino from the evening of Saturday, July 4th through the early afternoon on Sunday, July 5th due to particle pollution (PM2.5).
- AQI may reach **Unhealthy** or higher in the San Fernando Valley, Southern Orange County, and the San Gorgonio pass area.

Additional Information

- Fireworks release high levels of particle pollution (PM2.5 and PM10) and air toxic metals, with July 4th and July 5th having among the highest particle pollution levels every year in the South Coast Air Basin.
- Breathing particle pollution can lead to cardiovascular and respiratory health effects such as heart attacks, asthma aggravation, decreased lung function, coughing, or difficulty breathing and may lead to premature death in people with heart or lung disease.
- Personal “backyard” fireworks may lead to localized spikes in particle pollution levels and spark wildfires, which can be a major source of particle pollution.
- Fireworks smoke and combustion products add to other particle pollution in the air that is primarily from transportation and industrial emissions.
- The combination of fireworks smoke and high humidity may cause visibility issues on Saturday night, particularly in Orange County, and the Inland Empire.
- Visit the South Coast AQMD [Independence Day Fireworks Air Quality Assessment page](#) for additional information about Independence Day fireworks.

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the [South Coast AQMD app](#) or visit www.aqmd.gov/AQImap.

Detailed Forecast

<p>July 4th Evening</p>	<p>Light winds and increased smoke from fireworks are expected in the South Coast Air Basin after dusk, increasing pollutant build-up. AQI may reach Hazardous in Southern Los Angeles County including Downtown, San Gabriel Valley, and Northern Orange County. AQI may reach Unhealthy or higher in most other parts of Los Angeles and Orange Counties and the Inland Empire.</p>
<p>July 5th until early afternoon</p>	<p>AQI is expected to remain high through the early afternoon and will decrease throughout the day as winds disperse the pollution. The high levels will persist longer in Inland areas than at the coast. AQI may reach Hazardous at times in Riverside, San Bernardino and surrounding areas. AQI may reach Unhealthy or higher in other parts of Los Angeles and Orange Counties and the Inland Empire.</p>

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

If you are in impacted area:

- 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.

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](#).

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