



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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@SouthCoastAQMD    

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 18, 2026

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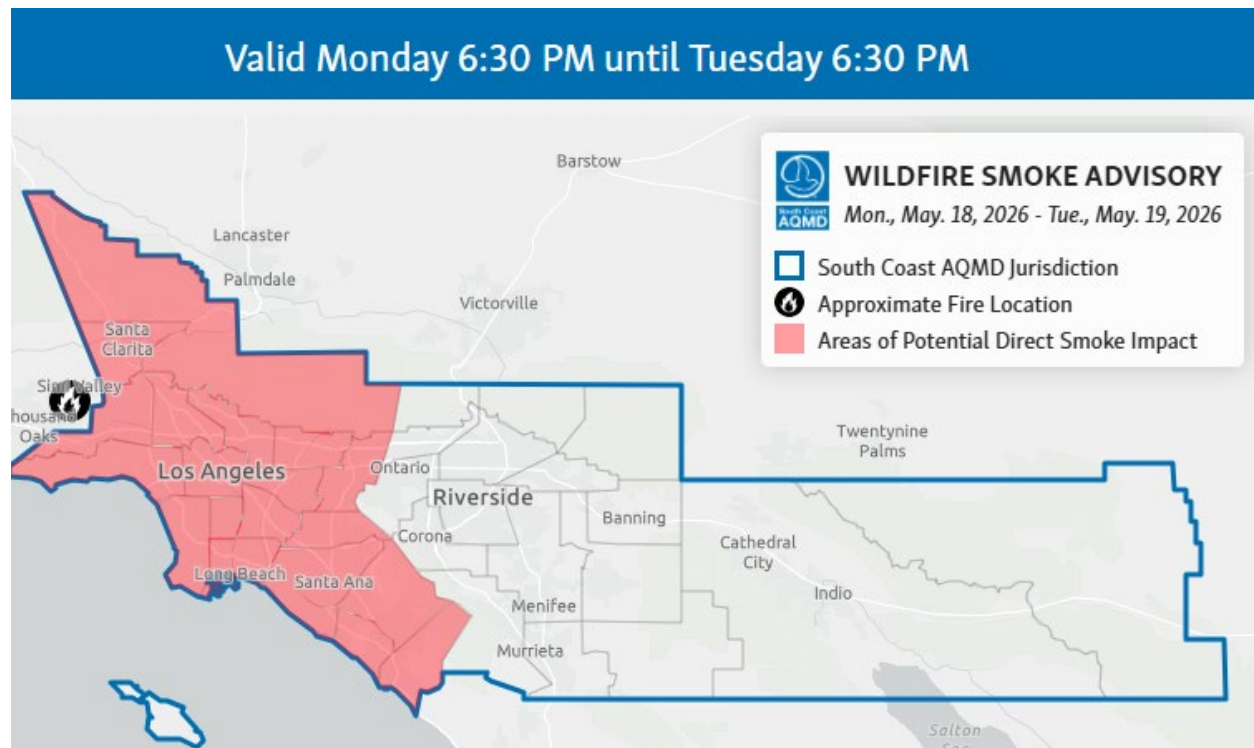
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## South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Wildfires

*Valid Monday 6:30 PM Until Tuesday 6:30 PM*



### Current Conditions

- The [Sandy Fire](#) has burned 836 acres along the Ventura - LA County border near Simi Valley and is 0% contained as of 6:15 PM on May 18, 2026.
- The [Santa Rosa Island Fire](#) has burned 14,600 acres and is 0% contained.
- Several [other small fires](#) have also impacted the region today.

- Smoke impacts have primarily been in the **Moderate** air quality index (AQI) category with brief periods of **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups**.

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the [South Coast AQMD app](#) or visit [www.aqmd.gov/AQImap](http://www.aqmd.gov/AQImap) to view current air quality in your neighborhood.

### Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

- Smoke impacts are expected to increase overnight.
- Smoke from the Sandy Fire is expected to impact much of western Los Angeles County including Calabasas, Santa Monica, and Los Angeles City.
- Smoke from the Santa Rosa Island that is already over the ocean is expected to come onshore overnight, impacting the entire coastline of Los Angeles and Orange Counties.
- Lesser impacts are expected further inland.

### Detailed Forecast

Monday night	Smoke may reach <b>Unhealthy</b> AQI between Calabasas, Pacific Palisades, and Malibu at times. The area between Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, and East Los Angeles may reach <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> or higher. Areas further inland, all of Orange County, and other parts of coastal LA County are more likely to be in the <b>Moderate</b> AQI category or higher.
Tuesday	Smoke conditions are expected to improve during the day in areas not adjacent to the Sandy Fire.
Tuesday night	Depending on fire activity, surface level smoke is expected to increase again during overnight hours.

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

### If you are in an area impacted by smoke:

- 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.
- Avoid burning wood in your fireplace or firepit and minimize sources of indoor air pollution such as candles, incense, pan-frying, and grilling.
- If you must be outside, a properly fit N95 or P100 respirator may provide some protection.

For more information, visit [www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety](http://www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety).

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](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).

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