



SMOKE ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Tom Flannigan
415.749.4900

Bay Area experiencing smoke impacts from Gap Fire

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is advising Bay Area residents that smoke from the Gap Fire in Siskiyou County will impact the Bay Area through Thursday.

There is also a Spare the Air Alert in effect today for ozone, or smog.

Air quality is expected to be unhealthy for sensitive groups today and moderate tomorrow on the U.S. EPA's Air Quality Index scale. Bay Area residents throughout the region may see hazy skies and smell smoke.

In general, Bay Area residents impacted by wildfire smoke are advised:

- To limit outdoor activities to avoid unnecessary exposure, if air smells of smoke
- Set air conditioning units and car vent systems to re-circulate
- Reduce exposure to smoky air by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed, if possible
- Go to www.baaqmd.gov to check real-time air quality

Smoke can irritate the eyes and airways, causing coughing, a scratchy throat and irritated sinuses. Elevated particulate matter in the air can trigger wheezing in those who suffer from asthma. Elderly persons, children and individuals with respiratory illnesses are particularly susceptible to elevated air pollution levels and should take extra precautions to avoid exposure.

The Air District will continue to monitor smoke impacts and issue additional advisories as conditions warrant.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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