



HEALTH ADVISORY, SPARE THE AIR ALERT

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Health Advisory & Spare the Air Alerts in effect through weekend

Residents throughout the Bay Area urged to protect their health and avoid heavy smoke impacted areas

SAN FRANCISCO – The Health Advisory and Spare the Air Alert issued yesterday have been extended through the weekend due to the wildfire smoke throughout the Bay Area.

Very unhealthy air quality from the wildfires in the North Bay is causing unprecedented levels of air pollution throughout the Bay Area. Due to active wildfires and changing wind patterns, air quality could be impacted for many days to come. Outside of the active fire areas, air quality will be variable and unpredictable. Air quality may improve at times or get worse, very quickly.

It is imperative that Bay Area residents protect their health, especially in Napa, Sonoma and Solano counties. If possible, it is recommended that residents impacted by heavy smoke seek shelter in buildings with filtered air OR move to areas outside the region less impacted by wildfire smoke until smoke levels subside.

People in heavy smoke-impacted areas that must remain in the area should, at minimum, use an N95 mask to help minimize breathing fine particles. N95 masks, when used properly, help filter fine particulates in wildfire smoke. Users should read and follow the manufacturer's directions carefully when using an N95 mask to maximize effectiveness.

In other parts of the Bay Area, residents should protect themselves from the impacts of heavy smoke. If residents see or smell smoke in their immediate area, they should stay indoors, if possible, with windows and doors closed and air conditioning units on recirculate to avoid drawing outside air into buildings. Children, the elderly and those with respiratory conditions such as asthma, COPD, emphysema and heart disease are most impacted.

It is recommended that parents and school administrators check air quality readings before allowing children outdoors while air quality is unhealthy. Check here for real-time air quality readings <https://go.usa.gov/xnxhb>.

For information about the safe cleanup of fire ash, visit:
<https://www.arb.ca.gov/carpa/toolkit/emerg-response/safe-cleanup-fire-ash.pdf>.

Because of the serious air quality conditions in parts of the Bay Area, we are asking residents to avoid adding additional air pollution by curtailing air polluting activities such as wood burning, lawn mowing and leaf blowing, driving, and barbecuing.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

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