BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

NEWS

Air District updates real-time Air Monitoring Data web pages
Air Quality Index values are available for the first time

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air District has updated its real-time air monitoring data web pages, improving functionality and for the first time adding hourly, color-coded Air Quality Index values to provide easy to understand health-related information about current air quality.

The air monitoring data pages display real-time, hourly information from the Air District's extensive ambient air monitoring and meteorology network. Available data now includes weather information, pollution concentrations and Air Quality Index, or AQI, values corresponding to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's health-based air quality scale.

"These extensive updates make the Air District's real-time air quality data much more accessible and user-friendly for the general public," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Adding hourly AQI readings delivers real-time health information in an easily understandable format, and significantly improves our website's capacity for providing useful air quality information to interested Bay Area residents."

The Air Quality Index was devised by the U.S. EPA to make the public health impacts of air pollution concentrations more easily understandable by the general public. The AQI translates daily pollution concentrations into a number scale divided into color-coded ranges associated with specific health notifications. The AQI scale is used by many local newspapers, TV stations and other media outlets to provide air quality information to the public. For more information about the AQI scale, see www.sparetheair.org.

The air monitoring data web pages display data collected through the Air District's extensive air monitoring network of 31 stations throughout the Bay Area. Viewers can now track real-time air quality trends at these sites throughout the region. The air monitoring data web pages also provide access to archival information - with a quick-click calendar for selecting and viewing data from previous dates and years.

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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