BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

SMOKE ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   **CONTACT: Aaron Richardson**
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Smoke from Valley Fire likely to impact North Bay late this week

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is advising Bay Area residents of the possibility that as winds shift, smoke from the Valley Fire may impact parts of the North Bay, especially Napa County.

Winds are expected to shift from the west to the north early Thursday, potentially moving smoke from the fire into parts of the Bay Area. **Significant localized impacts from smoke are likely closer to the fire in northern Napa County.**

Along with fixed air quality monitors in the North Bay, the Air District is working with local authorities and area fire fighters to install two temporary mobile air quality monitors in northern Napa County to monitor smoke impacts throughout the duration of the fire. Once the mobile monitors are setup, information from the monitors will be available at:
http://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=topics.smoke_wildfires.

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

Bay Area residents in regions impacted by wildfire smoke are advised to:

- Limit outdoor activities to avoid unnecessary exposure if the 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 conditions are particularly susceptible to elevated air pollution levels and should take extra precautions to avoid exposure to smoke.

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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