



SMOKE ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2017

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Bay Area smoke impacts from wildfires likely through weekend

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is advising Bay Area residents that smoke from the Northern California wildfires will likely impact the region through the Labor Day weekend.

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, emphysema or COPD. Elderly persons, children and individuals with respiratory illnesses are particularly susceptible to elevated air pollution levels and should take extra precautions to avoid exposure.

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

- Limit outdoor activities to avoid unnecessary exposure if you smell smoke
- Set air conditioning units and car vent systems to re-circulate to prevent outside air from moving inside
- Reduce exposure to smoky air by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed, if possible
- If you cannot keep windows and doors closed due to high temperatures, seek out cooling centers in your area
- Stay tuned to local media for changes in smoke or weather conditions

Smoke impacts can be seen throughout the Bay Area and levels of fine particulate pollution may exceed national health standards. The Bay Area is also expected to exceed national health standards for ozone, prompting a Spare the Air Alert in addition to a smoke advisory.

Smoke from northern California and Oregon wildfires has moved over the entire nine-county Bay Area. This smoke will stay in place through Saturday and potentially through the weekend. Due to the extremely high temperatures, there is also a heightened risk of fires breaking out throughout the region, causing localized smoke impacts.

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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