



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Air District urges carpooling, transit due to hot temperatures**

*No Spare the Air Alert tomorrow, although heat persists*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is urging Bay Area residents to carpool, take transit or work from home instead of driving alone as hot temperatures continue throughout the region.

Current weather conditions are unusual with very hot inland temperatures, onshore flow and vertical mixing that is diluting air pollution levels. However, mid-week conditions will change and potentially lead to unhealthy air quality.

“As high temperatures prompt heat-related health impacts, the Air District is urging Bay Area residents to Spare the Air by finding alternatives to driving alone to reduce overall air pollution for later in the week when weather conditions are favorable for smog formation,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Now is a great time for Bay Area residents to ask their employer about what commuter benefits are available to them to reduce commute expenses, stress and air pollution.”

Bay Area residents impacted by the heat should follow the advice of local health officials to find cooling centers in their area.

The single most effective way for residents to reduce smog is to drive less. Air District survey results find that Bay Area employees are more likely to adopt alternatives to driving alone when encouraged to do so by their employer. Bay Area employers with 50 or more full-time employees are now required to offer commuter benefits to their employees. For more information about the Commuter Benefits Program, visit [511.org](http://511.org) and click on Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program.

To find out when a Spare the Air Alert is in effect, residents can register for email AirAlerts at [www.sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org), call 1(800) HELP-AIR, download the Spare the Air App or connect with Spare the Air on Facebook or Twitter.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District ([www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. For more information about Spare the Air, visit [sparetheair.org](http://sparetheair.org).

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