

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

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Air Quality Advisory for smoke extended for Bay Area through Sunday

Smoke from wildfires expected to impact Bay Area air quality

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending the air quality advisory for smoke today through Sunday, August 26, for the entire the region.

The Bay Area may continue to experience smoke impacts from regional wildfires. Smoke from wildfires has drifted over the Pacific Ocean. Smoke conditions that were forecast to subside, changed due to a deeper than forecast marine layer. Smoke was aloft and mixed down to the surface, due to a deep fog layer and strong onshore winds. These complex weather conditions may continue to cause smoke to impact ground-level air quality.

If the smell of smoke is present, it is important that Bay Area residents protect their health by avoiding exposure. If possible, stay inside with windows and doors closed until smoke levels subside. Set air conditioning units and car vent systems to re-circulate to prevent outside air from moving inside.

Smoke can irritate the eyes and airways, causing coughing, a dry 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.

Check here for real-time air quality readings: https://go.usa.gov/xUwyz.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

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