BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 19, 2018
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Air quality advisory for smoke extended through the weekend for the Bay Area
Hazy skies and potential smoke may impact the region from southern Oregon and Northern California wildfires

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending the air quality advisory for potential smoke in parts of the Bay Area through Sunday, October 21.

Winds and air mixing may move smoke into parts of the Bay Area from southern Oregon and Northern California wildfires.

Although fine particulate concentrations may rise and visibility may be impacted, air quality is expected to remain in the moderate range. **The Air District is not forecasting an exceedance of the federal air quality health standard for the region and is not issuing a Spare the Air Alert.**

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

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