



NEWS RELEASE

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Air District issues first Spare the Air smog alerts in 2018

Two-day Alert issued for Friday & Saturday

SAN FRANCISCO – Today, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the first and second Spare the Air Alert for smog in 2018.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy tomorrow, Friday, June 22 and Saturday, June 23. Light winds combined with high temperatures and exhaust from motor vehicles are expected to cause unhealthy ozone accumulation in the Bay Area. There is no fire ban tomorrow and there is no wood burning ban in place.

“Emissions from the millions of vehicles on Bay Area roadways in combination with hot temperatures will create unhealthy air quality in our region,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “It’s time for all commuters to find alternatives to driving alone to help the Bay Area reduce the amount of transportation related pollution we create each day. Higher temperatures due to climate change will continue to create poor air quality until we reduce the largest source of daily air pollution from cars and trucks.”

Spare the Air Alerts are issued when ozone pollution is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. Ozone, or smog, can cause throat irritation, congestion, chest pain, trigger asthma, inflame the lining of the lungs and worsen bronchitis and emphysema. Long-term exposure to ozone can reduce lung function. Ozone pollution is particularly harmful for young children, seniors and those with respiratory and heart conditions. When a Spare the Air Alert is issued, outdoor exercise should be done only in the early morning hours when ozone concentrations are lower.

Find out more about what the Air District is doing to address climate change in the nine-county Bay Area. Spare the Air-Cool the Climate is a blueprint for tackling regional air pollution and climate pollutants while improving the health of Bay Area residents for the next several decades. Check out this video about our bold vision to combat climate change at <https://youtu.be/p9BxhIrlqrl>.

To find out when a Spare the Air Alert is in effect, residents can register for email AirAlerts at 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](#) 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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