



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Air District issues thirteenth Spare the Air Alert for smog**

*Commuters urged to carpool or take transit*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing its thirteenth Spare the Air Alert for smog in 2018.

**Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy tomorrow, Wednesday, September 26, 2018, due to pollution from millions of automobiles in the region, hot inland temperatures and light winds.** There is no free transit tomorrow. Wood burning is highly discouraged but not banned.

“We urge Bay Area residents to choose an alternative to driving alone every day,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Reducing the number of cars on our roads is the best way to do our part to reduce harmful air pollution in the region.”

Spare the Air Alerts for smog 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.

Check here for real-time air quality readings for ozone levels: <https://go.usa.gov/xUwV3>.

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](http://www.sparetheair.org), call 1(800) HELP-AIR, download the Spare the Air App or connect with Spare the Air on social media.

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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