



NEWS RELEASE

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Air District issues air quality advisory for smoke in the Bay Area

Smoke impacts possible from wildfires in the Sierras & local fires

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing an air quality advisory for smoke for the entire Bay Area region through Friday, October 11, 2019.

Beginning late tonight and into tomorrow morning on Friday, October 11, air quality impacts are possible in the Bay Area as smoke from wildfires in the Sierras moves into the region. **The smoke is expected to remain aloft and is not expected to exceed federal health standards.** However, smaller fires in the region may also cause localized smoke impacts.

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. If those impacted by the smoke are unable to keep windows and doors closed due to heat, it is recommended that they seek relief at a filtered air location such as a public library, shopping mall or movie theater. It is also recommended that Bay Area residents set air conditioning units and car vent systems to recirculate 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://bit.ly/2p7UFgs>.

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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