

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 24, 2019 CONTACT: Ralph Borrmann, 415.749.4900

Air District issues another Spare the Air Alert for Wednesday

Short hot spell will continue to result in poor air quality

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the seventeenth Spare the Air Alert for smog for Wednesday, September 25, 2019.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **again tomorrow**, **Wednesday**, **September 25**. A low-pressure system to the south of the Bay Area continues to combine with a high-pressure system in the Pacific Northwest to create offshore winds and high temperatures in the region. These conditions are forecast to lead to elevated levels of air pollution. However, this pattern is expected to end on Thursday, with cooler weather and lower air pollution concentrations returning to the Bay Area.

"Leaving your car at home, especially when commuting to and from work, is the best way to reduce harmful air pollution," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "By breaking the habit of driving alone and carpooling, taking transit, biking or walking instead, we can make the air healthier to breathe for everyone in the Bay Area."

Spare the Air Alerts are issued when ozone pollution is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. Ozone 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/p9Bxhlrlqrl.

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 <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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