



NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACTS: Ralph Borrmann, 415.760.0285

Spare the Air Alert extended through Thursday

Localized smoke impacts from Glass Fire will continue in North Bay

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending the Spare the Air Alert due to wildfire smoke from the Glass Fire in Napa and Sonoma counties through Thursday, October 8, which bans burning wood, manufactured fire logs or any other solid fuel, both indoors and outdoors.

Wildfire smoke from the Glass Fire in the North Bay, in addition to smoke from other northern California fires, will continue to impact the region. While onshore winds will continue to blow smoke out of much the Bay Area, localized impacts near the Glass Fire and intermittent impacts in the broader Bay Area will continue. It is illegal for Bay Area residents and businesses to use their fireplaces, wood stoves, pellet stoves, outdoor fire pits or any other wood-burning devices during a Spare the Air Alert for particulate pollution.

“While most of the Bay Area has experienced cleaner air over the past few days, localized and intermittent smoke impacts will continue near the Glass Fire,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District, “Bay Area residents should continue to be vigilant about air quality conditions over the next couple of days. As fire containment efforts progress and more favorable weather conditions move into the region, we expect more widespread relief from smoke starting this weekend.”

Spare the Air Alerts are issued when ozone or particulate matter pollution is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. If smoke reaches unhealthy levels, 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 temperatures allow. If temperatures are too hot indoors, visit an air-cooling center or other building that provides filtered air. It is also recommended that those impacted by smoke set their 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.

Visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s new Fire and Smoke Map for current air quality readings: <https://bit.ly/2S3mDoI>.

To find out when a Spare the Air Alert is in effect, residents can sign up for text alerts by texting the word “START” to 817-57, 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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Air District Communications Office
375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 - (415) 749-4900
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