



AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 17, 2021

CONTACT: Aaron Richardson, 415.760.0242

Air District issues air quality advisory for Wednesday

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing an air quality advisory for wildfire smoke for Wednesday, August 18.

Smoke from the Northern California wildfires is expected to again impact the Bay Area on Wednesday. Onshore winds are expected to shift to strong north/northeast winds in the Sacramento Valley, pushing smoke into the Bay Area. Smoke impacts are forecast to be more widespread than last week. Air quality is expected to be in the mid to high-moderate range and not exceed the federal health standard, so no Spare the Air Alert is in effect. Due to active wildfires and changing wind patterns, smoky, hazy skies may be visible and air quality throughout the Bay Area may be impacted. The Air District will be closely monitoring air quality throughout the region for smoke impacts from the fires.

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 temperatures allow. 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 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 air quality readings: baaqmd.gov/highs.

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](#).

###

Air District Communications Office
375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105
[Air District Homepage](#) | [News Releases](#)