



NEWS RELEASE

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Air District extends Spare the Air Alert for smog through Friday

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the third Spare the Air Alert in 2021 for smog for Friday, June 18.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **tomorrow, Friday, June 18**. Hot temperatures along with motor vehicle exhaust will create unhealthy concentrations of ozone, or smog. Tailpipe exhaust remains the largest source of smog in the Bay Area.

“With hot temperatures and more cars on Bay Area roads, air quality is again expected to be unhealthy on Friday as more employees return to their workplaces and traffic steadily increases,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Rather than getting back in your car, consider working remotely, taking transit, biking or walking to improve our air quality and help us all breathe easier.”

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.

Bay Area residents can find out if a Spare the Air Alert is in effect by:

- Signing up for text alerts. To sign up, text the word “START” to the number 817-57
- Visiting www.sparetheair.org or www.baaqmd.gov
- Signing up for e-mail AirAlerts at www.sparetheair.org/alerts
- Signing up for phone alerts at www.sparetheair.org/alerts
- Downloading the Spare the Air, Bay Area iPhone or Android app
- Connecting with Spare the Air on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](http://www.baaqmd.gov) 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](#). For more information about Spare the Air, visit [sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org).

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