



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Air District extends Spare the Air Alert for smog through Saturday**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the fourth Spare the Air Alert in 2021 for smog for Saturday, June 19.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **tomorrow, Saturday, June 19**. Hot temperatures and light winds 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.

“As we prepare for a third consecutive Spare the Air Alert, the most important thing we can all do to reduce air pollution is to limit our driving,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Bay Area residents can do their part to help protect air quality by taking transit, working remotely, walking or biking every day.”

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](http://www.sparetheair.org) or [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)
- Signing up for e-mail AirAlerts at [www.sparetheair.org/alerts](http://www.sparetheair.org/alerts)
- Signing up for phone alerts at [www.sparetheair.org/alerts](http://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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