

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 15, 2022 CONTACT: Aaron Richardson, 415.760.0242

Air District extends air quality advisory for eastern Contra Costa County through Monday

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending an air quality advisory for wildfire smoke in eastern Contra Costa County through Monday, July 18.

Smoke from the Marsh Fire is expected to continue to impact the eastern Contra Costa cities of Pittsburg, Antioch, Oakley and Brentwood through the weekend and into Monday. Onshore winds during the daytime are expected to disperse smoke, but as winds die down overnight localized pollution levels may rise during the overnight and early morning hours. Pollutant levels are not expected to exceed the national 24-hour health standard. A Spare the Air Alert is <u>not</u> in effect.

The Air District will be closely monitoring air quality throughout the region for smoke impacts from this and other 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 real-time air quality readings: http://baaqmd.gov/highs.

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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