



NEWS RELEASE

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Air District issues this year's first Spare the Air Alert for smog

Commuters urged to find alternatives to driving alone

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the first Spare the Air Alert of 2022 for smog on Friday, June 10.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **tomorrow, Friday, June 10**. Very hot inland temperatures, along with motor vehicle exhaust, will create elevated concentrations of ozone, or smog.

“Bay Area traffic is ramping up to pre-pandemic levels, and tailpipe exhaust combined with high temperatures is expected to cause unhealthy smog,” said Sharon Landers, interim executive officer of the Air District. “We can all help keep our air healthier by finding alternatives to driving alone, such as working remotely, taking transit, biking or walking.”

Spare the Air Alerts are issued when ozone pollution is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. Ozone can cause throat irritation, congestion and chest pain. It can trigger asthma, inflame the lining of the lungs and worsen bronchitis and emphysema. Long-term exposure 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 undertaken only in the early morning hours when ozone concentrations are lower.

To find out when a Spare the Air Alert is in effect, residents can 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](http://www.bayareaairquality.org) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](https://twitter.com/bayareaair), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/bayareaair) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/bayareaair). For more information about Spare the Air, visit www.sparetheair.org.

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