

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

baaqmd.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 20, 2023

CONTACT: communications@baaqmd.gov

Air District extends air quality advisory for Thursday

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending an air quality advisory for wildfire smoke through Thursday, July 20.

Smoke from the Flat Fire in southwestern Oregon continues to be transported into the Bay Area today and into the early evening. Smoky, hazy skies may be visible across the Bay Area and the smell of smoke is possible at higher elevations, especially in the East Bay, North Bay and Santa Clara Valley regions. **Pollutant levels are not expected to exceed the national 24-hour health standard. A Spare the Air Alert is not 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 air quality readings: <http://baaqmd.gov/highs>.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](http://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](#).

###

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