

# AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

[baaqmd.gov](http://baaqmd.gov)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** August 19, 2023

**CONTACT:** [communications@baaqmd.gov](mailto:communications@baaqmd.gov)

## Air District issues air quality advisory for Sunday

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing an air quality advisory for wildfire smoke for Sunday, August 20.

Smoke from numerous fires in northern California is impacting air quality over far northwestern California. Wind patterns are helping to keep smoke away from the Bay Area today through most of the day on Sunday. However, some smoke is predicted to reach the North Bay by late Sunday afternoon, causing air quality to reach low-Moderate on the U.S. EPA's Air Quality Index. Smoky, hazy skies may be visible in the North Bay and the smell of smoke is possible at higher elevations. **Pollutant levels are NOT expected to exceed the national 24-hour health standard and there is no Spare the Air Alert in effect.**

The Air District will be closely monitoring air quality throughout the region for smoke impacts from these 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

