



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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@SouthCoastAQMD    

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South Coast AQMD Reminds Residents to Take Precautions to Avoid Exposure to Wildfire Ash

DIAMOND BAR—The South Coast Air Quality Management District's (South Coast AQMD) recent windblown dust and ash advisory will expire today at 7:00 p.m., as high winds over the burned areas are expected to subside. Residents are reminded that exposure to ash from the Palisades and Eaton wildfires remains a potential health concern and are reminded to take proper precautions to protect themselves.

Windblown ash particles may be too large to be detected by air quality instrumentation and not reflected in the Air Quality Index (AQI) map. However, ash is typically visible to the naked eye either in the air or on outdoor surfaces. Although the AQI may show green, hazardous ash may be present in the air.

South Coast AQMD reminds residents to take precautions under any of the following conditions:

- AQI Levels are elevated
- You smell Smoke
- You see Ash

If any of the above are present:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do **not** use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Always wear proper personal protective equipment (long sleeve shirts, pants, gloves and safety glasses) when working around ash. A well-fitting respirator such as an N-95 may provide some protection. If you do get ash on your skin, wash it off as soon as possible.
- Do not use leaf blowers or take other actions (e.g., dry sweeping) that will put ash into the air. To clean up ash, use vacuums equipped with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters or mist lightly with water before gently sweeping.

Additional Resources:

- Real time air quality: www.aqmd.gov/aqimap
- Sign up for air quality advisories: www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- Download our free mobile app (available in English and Spanish) at: www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips: www.aqmd.gov/wildfiretips

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).

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