

Wildfire Smoke Air Pollution Emergency Plan

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Breathe Sacramento



AB 661 Requirements

- Legislation adopted October 2019 as a result of lessons learned after the Camp Fire in 2018
- Need for Local Agency Coordination and Communication
- **Goal:** Develop a coordinated plan that will serve as an information source for local agencies and the public during wildfire smoke events
- **Deliverable:** emergency plan developed by SMAQMD

Specific Plan Elements

1 - Health Protective Recommendations & Guidelines

2 - Identification of Responsible Agencies

3 - Best Practices for Business & Public Agencies

4 - Strategies for Vulnerable Populations

Responsible Agencies

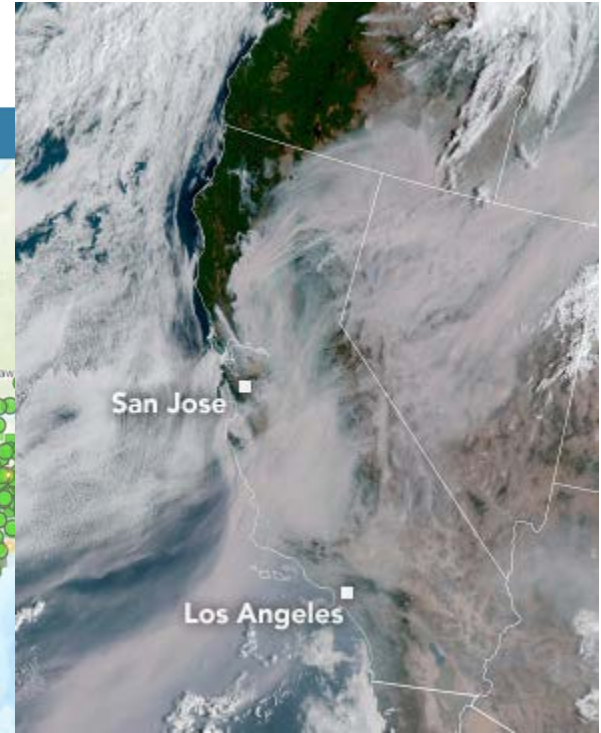
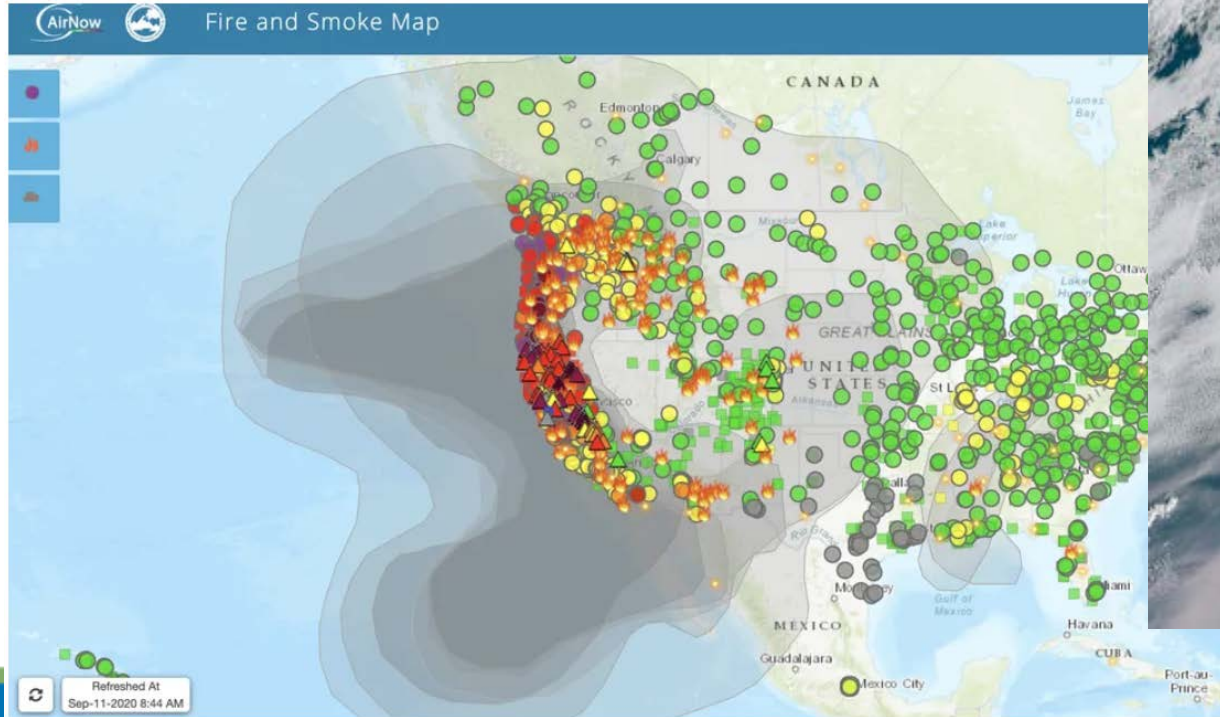
- **Multi-agency Coordination/Consultation:**

- County Health Officer
- Local emergency services
- School Districts
- Regional Planning Agency
- CARB



WHERE DO YOU GET AIR QUALITY INFO?

Air Now Fire & Smoke Map (fire.airnow.gov)



Air Quality Action Chart for Schools

School Districts		Recommended Actions During Wildfire Smoke Events & Unhealthy Air Quality Levels			
Air quality is an important consideration for schools, especially during extreme air quality events when poor air quality can be detrimental to student and staff health. The recommendations below were developed in consultation with state and local health and air quality officials and local school districts.					
ACTIVITY	Level 1 GOOD	Level 2 MODERATE	Level 3 UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS	Level 4 UNHEALTHY	Level 5 VERY UNHEALTHY (School closure may be considered ²)
Recess (15 min)	No Restrictions	Ensure sensitive individuals ¹ are medically managing their condition	Sensitive individuals should exercise indoors or avoid vigorous outdoor activities Allow individuals who complain of difficulty breathing to play indoors	Exercise indoors or avoid vigorous outdoor activities Sensitive individuals or any individual who complains of difficulty breathing should remain indoors	No outdoor activity All activity should be moved indoors or discontinued
Physical Education Class (60 min)	No Restrictions	Ensure sensitive individuals are medically managing their condition	Sensitive individuals should exercise indoors or avoid vigorous outdoor activities Make indoor space available for sensitive individuals	Exercise indoors or limit vigorous outdoor activity to maximum 15 minutes Sensitive individuals or any individual who complains of difficulty breathing should remain indoors	No outdoor activity All activity should be moved indoors or discontinued
Athletic Practice/ Scheduled Sporting Events	No Restrictions	Ensure sensitive individuals are medically managing their condition	Ensure sensitive individuals are medically managing their condition Reduce vigorous exercise to 30 minutes per hour Increase rest periods and substitutions to lower breathing rates	Reduce vigorous exercise to 30 minutes per hour Increase rest periods and substitutions to lower breathing rates Sensitive individuals should remain indoors	Practice or event should be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued
Scheduled Outdoor Events	No Restrictions	Ensure sensitive individuals are medically managing their condition	Ensure sensitive individuals are medically managing their condition	Decrease duration of events exceeding 2 hours Consider rescheduling or relocating event	Event should be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued
AQI Reading ³	0-50	51-100	101-150	151-200	≥201
PM 2.5 Range	1-12.0 µg/m3	12.1-35.4 µg/m3	35.5-55.4 µg/m3	55.5-150.4 µg/m3	150.5 -250.4µg/m3
¹ Sensitive Individuals include anyone with asthma or other heart/lung conditions. Students with asthma should follow their asthma action plans and keep their quick-relief medicine handy. ² To meet waiver approval conditions due to emergency conditions (Form J-13A) from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, poor air quality must be shown to be caused by an emergency event such as a wildfire. ³ Recommended actions should be followed when the AQI for any pollutant (ozone, PM2.5 and PM10) exceeds 100. AQI readings and other info are found at AirQuality.org and SpareTheAir.com .					

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WHAT TO DO DURING A WILDFIRE SMOKE EVENT

Follow these steps to find air quality conditions and know what actions to take to help keep you and others as healthy as possible during days of high air pollution.

STEP 1

Find the Current Local Air Quality

- Current local air quality conditions: fire.airnow.gov
- Forecasted (Future) AQI: airquality.org

STEP 2

Review Air Quality Action Chart

- Go to the **Wildfire Smoke Info** page at airquality.org
- Find the **Air Quality Action Chart** for your sector

STEP 3

Make Your Plan

- Review the recommended actions on the chart
- Determine what steps you will take
- Make your action plan

STEP 4

Communicate the Plan

- Follow your communication plan
- Alert students, employees, etc. of actions to be taken during the smoke event

STEP 5

Implement the Plan

- Check current air quality at fire.airnow.gov
- Follow through with recommended actions when air quality meets certain levels

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



**5 Steps to Take During
a Smoke Event**
(for schools, businesses,
public agencies)



TOOLS & ADVISORIES

Guidance for Sacramento County Schools During Wildfire Smoke Events

This information sheet provides resources for school officials to help make decisions about school activities and closures during a wildfire smoke event.



For current information on fires, smoke and air quality, visit EPA's AirNow website at <https://fire.airnow.gov>



For information on local air quality and other wildfire resources, visit Sac Metro Air District's website at AirQuality.org and click on the Wildfire Smoke Information link



To address immediate public health concerns and wildfire smoke, call the Sacramento County Public Health Office at (916) 875-5881



For information on limiting smoke exposure, visit the Sacramento County Public Health Department website and search for Wildfire Smoke Exposure



For general inquiries, call Sac Metro Air District's main line at (916) 874-4800



Smoke Sense

For current smoke and air quality information, download the free EPA Smoke Sense app on Google Play, the App Store and the Windows Store



For current local air quality, download the free Sacramento Region Air Quality App on Google Play, the App Store, and the Windows Store

Activities to Avoid During Unhealthy Air Quality Events

During wildfire events and days of high pollution, you can help by avoiding activities that add more smoke or dust into the air we breathe.

Landscaping



Do not use lawn equipment that may put more pollution from motors, dust, or ash into the air.

Postpone or limit dirt-moving activities at construction sites. If a project must continue, make sure to use low speeds and prevent dust with water or other methods.

Construction



Burning



Burning anything, even dry wood in an outdoor fire pit, creates harmful smoke. Visit AirQuality.org to see which burning activities are illegal in Sacramento County.

Avoid any outdoor cooking that produces smoke.

Outdoor Cooking



Putting the Plan Into Action!



- **Website Information**
- **5 Steps to Take During Smoke Event**
- **Air Quality Action Charts**
 - For schools
 - For Businesses
 - Public Agencies
- **Advisories/Tools**

Stay Informed

SMAQMD

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Airquality.org

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