



South Coast
AQMD

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Silverado Fire

Valid: Monday, October 26, through Tuesday, October 27, 2020

This advisory is in effect through Tuesday afternoon. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A wildfire named the Silverado Fire is burning in the Santiago Canyon area to the east of Tustin and Orchard Hills in Orange County. The fire was first reported at a size of 10 acres on 6:45 am on Monday and quickly grew to 4,000 acres as of 1:00 PM on Monday. Current information on the Silverado Fire can be found on the Orange County Fire Authority's twitter page at: https://twitter.com/OCFA_PIO and also on CAL FIRE's website at: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/10/26/silverado-fire/>.

Past and Current Smoke and Ash Impacts

The Silverado Fire is producing substantial amounts of smoke on Monday afternoon based on satellite imagery, webcam imagery, and social media posts. Strong Santa Ana winds are moving the smoke plumes towards the southwest into Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Newport Beach. South Coast AQMD's monitor at Mission Viejo has measured hourly PM2.5 values in the Moderate Air Quality Index (AQI) category since Monday morning. Low-cost sensors PM2.5 in Irvine, Costa Mesa, Lake Forest, and Newport Beach have been in the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups to Very Unhealthy AQI categories. Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata> to view current air quality conditions.

In any area impacted by smoke: If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD's Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: <http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips>.

Forecasted Smoke and Ash Impacts

- Monday afternoon: Winds will be from the north and northeast on Monday afternoon with wind gusts of 20 – 50 mph, moving smoke from the Silverado Fire into Saddleback Valley and Coastal Orange County and out into the Pacific Ocean towards Catalina Island.
- Monday evening through Tuesday morning: Winds will be from the north and northeast Monday evening through Tuesday morning, with periods of variable wind direction. Areas south and southwest of the Silverado Fire along the 133, 241, and 261 corridors from Irvine to the coastline will likely see the highest particulate matter levels as smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground overnight.
- Tuesday afternoon: Winds are predicted to be from the northeast on Tuesday afternoon, which will push smoke towards the southwest towards Coastal Orange County and out into the Pacific Ocean.

Overall, meteorological conditions will bring smoke and ash into portions of Orange County. **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher AQI levels due to PM2.5 concentrations are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts. Windblown dust and ash from this wind event will also affect air quality with **Hazardous** AQI levels possible due to elevated PM10 levels.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

- **Orange County:** Central Orange County (Area 17), North Coastal Orange County (Area 18), Saddleback Valley (Area 19), Central Coastal Orange County (Area 20), Capistrano Valley (Area 21)



- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap>
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- Air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside 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](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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