



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

South Coast  
AQMD

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@SouthCoastAQMD    

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 18, 2023

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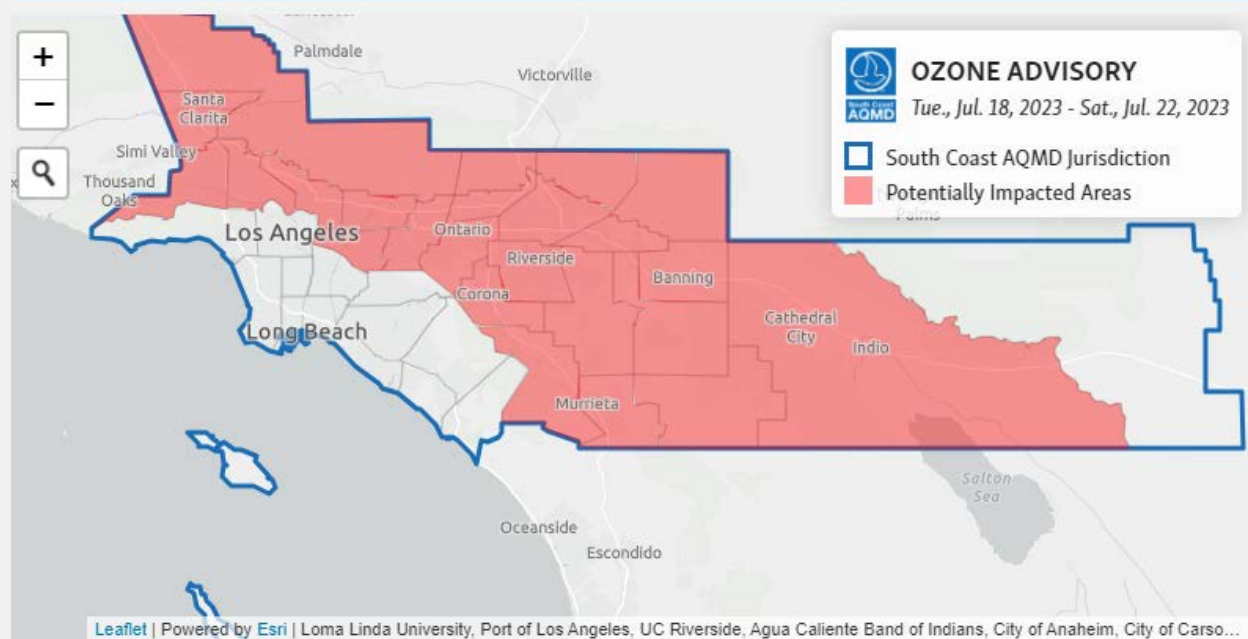
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## South Coast AQMD Extends Ozone Advisory as Heat Wave Continues

**Valid: Tuesday, July 18 through Saturday, July 22, 2023**

*This advisory is in effect from 1 p.m. Tuesday through 8 p.m. Saturday. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.*



### Recent Conditions

- Over the past few days, Air Quality Index (AQI) levels have reached **Unhealthy** in most inland areas and **Very Unhealthy** in some localized areas due to a prolonged heat wave.

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the [South Coast AQMD app](#) or visit [www.aqmd.gov/AQImap](http://www.aqmd.gov/AQImap).

## Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- A multi-day extreme ozone (smog) event is expected to continue as a prolonged heat wave continues to affect the region.
- AQI will likely reach **Unhealthy** or worse in inland areas of the South Coast Air Basin and in the Coachella Valley in the afternoon and early evening hours on Tuesday through Saturday.
- Ozone may reach the **Very Unhealthy** AQI in the Lake Arrowhead area, the San Bernardino Valley, and nearby areas.

## Excessive Heat Warnings and Heat Advisories

- The persistently high ozone levels are in part caused by high temperatures that increase ozone formation rates and emissions of chemicals leading to ozone formation.
- The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued Excessive Heat Warnings for parts of the South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley through Saturday evening.
- Temperatures will be highest midweek, with highs in the 100s in the Inland Empire and 110s in the Coachella Valley.
- For more information about NWS Warnings and Watches see <https://www.weather.gov/sgx/> and <https://www.weather.gov/lox/>.

## Health Effects of Ozone

- Ozone air pollution can cause respiratory health problems, including trouble breathing, asthma attacks, and lung damage.
- Research also indicates that ozone exposure can increase the risk of premature death.
- Children, older adults, pregnant people, and people with preexisting lung problems such as asthma may be more sensitive to the health effects of ozone.

## Detailed Forecast

Daytime	AQI levels will increase after sunrise, peak in the mid-afternoon, and then decrease. AQI is predicted to reach the <b>Unhealthy</b> category in large portions of the region with localized areas reaching the <b>Very Unhealthy</b> category.
Early morning and overnight	AQI is predicted to be in the <b>Good</b> to <b>Moderate</b> categories overnight and in the early morning hours each day.

## During periods of poor air quality due to ozone pollution:

- Check air quality levels and limit outdoor activities as necessary. See [health recommendations for each AQI level](#).
- Limit the use of gasoline powered lawn and garden equipment until evening hours.
- Conserve electricity and set your air conditioner at a higher temperature.
- Try to delay trips to the gas station and the use of household chemicals until the evening.
- For more information, see the [EPA Guide to Ozone Pollution](#) (PDF).

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](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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