

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 17, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

Smoke Advisory Continues Due to Multiple Wildfires

Valid Tuesday 11:30 a.m. until Wednesday 11:00 p.m.



Current Conditions

The Bridge Fire is burning in the San Gabriel Mountains between Piñon Hills, Mount Baldy, La Verne, and Crystal Lake. As of 10 AM on Tuesday, the fire has burned 54,795 acres and is 25% contained. For more information about the Bridge Fire visit the InciWeb webpage at https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/caanf-bridge-fire and the Cal Fire webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/8/bridge-fire/.

- The Line Fire is burning between Highland, Running Springs, Big Bear Lake, and Angelus Oaks. As of 10 AM on Tuesday, the fire has burned 39,111 acres and is 49% contained. For more information about the Line Fire, visit the CalFire incident page at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/5/line-fire/ and the InciWeb webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/5/line-fire/ and the InciWeb webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/5/line-fire/ and the InciWeb webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/5/line-fire/ and the InciWeb webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incident-information/cabdf-line-fire.
- The Airport Fire is burning in the Santa Ana Mountains between Rancho Santa Margarita, Lake Elsinore, and Modjeska Peak. As of 10 AM on Tuesday, the fire has burned 23,519 acres and is 31% contained. For more information about the Airport Fire visit the InciWeb webpage at https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cacnf-airport-fire.
- The regulatory monitor at Big Bear measured Air Quality Index (AQI) levels in the **Moderate** or **Good** categories since 8 AM on Monday through Tuesday morning. Other regulatory monitors have remained at **Moderate** or better AQI categories from Monday morning through Tuesday morning.
- As of 10 AM on Tuesday, satellite imagery shows smoke in the vicinity of both the Bridge and Line fires. Cloud cover obscures the area near the Airport Fire, but surface measures indicate minimal to no smoke impacts.
- Information about Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety is available at <u>https://www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety</u>.

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the <u>South Coast AQMD</u> app or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u> to view current air quality in your neighborhood.

Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

- Smoke from the Bridge and Line Fires is expected to most heavily impact areas near each fire including the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains, Big Bear, and Mt. Baldy.
- The Smoke Outlook for the Line and Bridge Fires from the U.S. Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program is available at <u>https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook/e18c7d17</u>.
- Smoke impacts from the Airport fire are expected to be localized to areas adjacent to the fire.
- Smoke impacts in the South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley will likely continue until fire activity decreases. South Coast Air Quality Management District will continue to provide daily smoke advisory updates until air quality impacts from smoke subside.

Detailed Forecast

Tuesday	PM2.5 levels in Angelus Oaks is expected to reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI category or higher. Other impacted areas are expected to reach the Moderate AQI category or higher.
Tuesday night to Wednesday morning	PM2.5 levels are expected to be in the Moderate AQI category or higher in most smoke-impacted areas.

WednesdayBig Bear is expected to reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI category or higher on Wednesday afternoon. Most other smoke-impacted areas are expected to be in the Moderate AQI category or higher.

South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

If you are in an area impacted by smoke:

- 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.
- Avoid burning wood in your fireplace or firepit and minimize sources of indoor air pollution such as candles, incense, pan-frying, and grilling.
- If you must be outside, a properly fit N95 or P100 respirator may provide some protection.

For more information, visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety</u>.

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 <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> (formerly known as Twitter) and <u>Instagram</u>.

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