

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 11, 2024

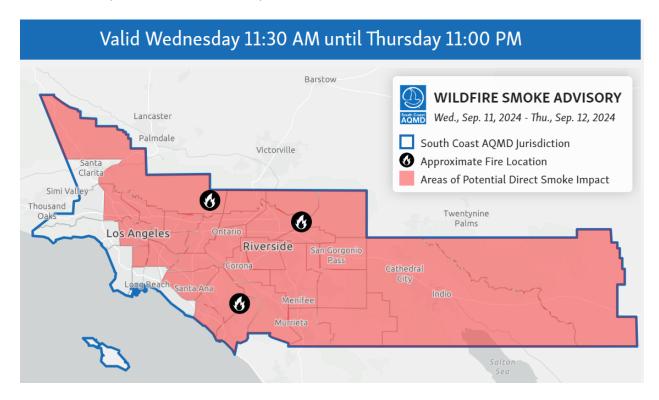
MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Connie Villanueva (909) 396-2409, Cell: (909) 215-5601

press@aqmd.gov

Smoke Advisory Continues Due to Fires in Orange County, San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains

Valid Wednesday 11:30 AM until Thursday 11:00 PM



Current Conditions

- The Bridge Fire is burning in the San Gabriel Mountains between Glendora and Phelan. As of 10 AM on Wednesday, the fire has burned 47,904 acres and is 0% contained. For more information about the Bridge Fire visit the InciWeb page at https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/caanf-bridge-fire.
- The Line Fire is burning between Highland, Running Springs, and Angelus Oaks. As of 10 AM on Wednesday, the fire has burned 34,659 acres and is 14% 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/.

- The Airport Fire is burning in the Santa Ana Mountains between Rancho Santa Margarita and Lake Elsinore. As of 10 AM on Wednesday, the fire has burned 22,376 acres and is 0% contained. For more information about the Airport Fire visit Watch Duty at https://app.watchduty.org/i/33801.
- Regulatory monitors including Big Bear, Crestline, Lake Elsinore, Glendora, and Banning measured PM2.5 levels up to **Very Unhealthy** AQI categories during Tuesday and early Wednesday.
- As of 10 AM on Wednesday, satellite imagery shows substantial smoke production from the Bridge, Line, and Airport Fires. The smoke is primarily traveling to the northeast of each fire, leading to PM2.5 levels in the **Very Unhealthy** AQI category in Big Bear Lake. The San Bernardino Mountains, the eastern San Gabriel Mountains, and the southern Santa Ana Mountains are all being heavily impacted by smoke. Smoke from the Airport Fire is higher in the atmosphere above the Inland Empire, but surface impacts appear to be minimal at this time according to surface measurements and webcam imagery.

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

Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

- Smoke from Bridge, Line, and Airport Fires is expected to mostly impact inland areas and PM2.5
 levels are expected to be between Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups and Hazardous. The worst
 impacts will be near each fire. Western Los Angeles and coastal Orange County are expected to
 have minimal smoke impacts.
- 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.
- Per South Coast AQMD Rule 444, burning wood on the beach is prohibited on Thursday September 12th from Salt Creek Beach in Orange County to the San Diego County line due to forecasted AQI values above 100.

Detailed Forecast

Wednesday	Smoke impacts near the fires are expected to be between Unhealthy and Hazardous AQI categories; this includes eastern San Gabriel Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains, Big Bear Lake, southern Santa Ana Mountains, Rancho Santa Margarita, and Perris. The Inland Empire is expected to be impacted by smoke intermittently during the day. Smoke levels are expected to gradually increase in Coachella Valley.
Wednesday night and Thursday early morning	Smoke is expected to gradually fill in all areas east of Mission Viejo, Anaheim, and El Monte. Smoke Impacted areas include eastern San Gabriel Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains, Santa Ana Mountains, Inland Empire, Hemet, and Coachella Valley. Smoke impacts are expected to be minimal in Los Angeles County west of El Monte and coastal Orange County.

Thursday	Smoke is expected to persist in the same areas impacted overnight. PM2.5 levels will depend on fire activity.
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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 www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety.

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.