



WILDFIRE SMOKE INFORMATION

A joint message from the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD) and partners

Monday, September 11, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Air Quality Public Service Announcement

No air quality ADVISORY or ALERTS are in effect for today.

The NWS indicates one more day of warm and dry conditions before the high pressure gives way. With hotter and drier weather today, slightly more active fire behaviors and slightly more smoke production are expected. Light northeasterly winds may drift smoke generally southwest and down drainages. Some smoke is likely in communities South of the fires this morning, then increasing later in the afternoon. Inland communities, will see a slow rise in smoke impacts through the day and tonight. The smoke from the Chetco Bar Fire in southern Oregon will largely remain localized, affecting mainly Smith River.

Humboldt County: Orleans and Willow Creek are forecast to be “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”, while Weitchpec and Hoopa are forecast to be “Moderate”. The Humboldt Bay Air Basin (from Trinidad, McKinleyville, Arcata, Blue Lake, Eureka, Fortuna, Ferndale, Rio Dell, to Scotia) is also forecast to have overall “Good” to “Moderate” conditions. Garberville and areas in southern Humboldt are forecast in the “Good” range.

Del Norte County: Smith River is forecast overall to be “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” late morning, then late afternoon periods of “Unhealthy” conditions. Crescent City and Gasquet are forecast to be “Good”, while Klamath may experience mostly “Moderate” conditions.

Trinity County: Weaverville and adjacent areas (Lewiston, Junction City, Big Bar, Del Loma) are forecast to be generally “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” with periods of “Unhealthy” conditions. Hayfork is forecast to have mostly “Moderate” conditions.

Temporary Clean Air Centers in Humboldt County:

- Hoopa Neighborhood Facility, Hoopa Tribal Office, Highway 96, Hoopa; M-F 8 am to 6 pm.
- Karuk Senior Center 459 Asip Road Orleans; (530) 627-3056, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Yurok Tribal Office Highway 96 Weitchpec; (530) 625-4130

Temporary Clean Air Centers in Trinity County:

- American Red Cross Evacuation Shelter, First Baptist Church, 1261 Main St., Weaverville.
- Cox Bar Elementary School, 304 Corral Bottom Road, Big Bar; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Temporary Clean Air Centers in Del Norte County (see also <http://preparedelnorte.com>):

- Family Resource Center, 494 Pacific Ave, Crescent City; closed 8 p.m. to 10 a.m.

- Tsunami Lanes Bowling Alley, 760 L Street, Crescent City; open during regular bowling alley hours posted at location
- Xaa-wan'-k'wvt Village and Resort (formerly Ship Ashore), 12370 Hwy 101 N., Smith River; closed 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Updates will be provided as conditions change.

Particulate Matter (PM2.5) monitors are presently in Smith River, Crescent City, Klamath, Gasquet, Orleans, Weitchpec, Hoopa, Willow Creek, Weaverville, Hayfork, Eureka, Scotia, and Garberville.

Subsequent Wildfire Smoke Public Service Announcements will be issued as conditions change. Fire information can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or at www.calfire.ca.gov. Current weather information can be found at www.wrh.noaa.gov.

Health Information for Smoke Impacts

Concentrations of smoke may vary depending upon location, weather, and distance from the fire. Smoke from wildfires and structure fires contain harmful chemicals that can affect your health. Smoke can cause eye and throat irritation, coughing, and difficulty breathing. People who are at greatest risk of experiencing symptoms due to smoke include: those with respiratory disease (such as asthma), those with heart disease, young children, and older adults.

These sensitive populations should stay indoors and avoid prolonged activity. All others should limit prolonged or heavy activity and time spent outdoors. Even healthy adults can be affected by smoke. Seek medical help if you have symptoms that worsen or become severe.

If you can see, taste, or feel smoke, contact your local health department and/or primary healthcare provider. This is especially important if you have health concerns, are elderly, are pregnant, or have a child in your care.

Follow these general precautions to protect your health during a smoke event:

- Minimize or stop outdoor activities, especially exercise
- Stay indoors with windows and doors closed as much as possible
- Do not run fans that bring smoky outdoor air inside – examples include swamp coolers, whole-house fans, and fresh air ventilation systems
- Run your air-conditioner only if it does not bring smoke in from the outdoors. Change the standard air conditioner filter to a medium or high efficiency filter. If available, use the “re-circulate” or “recycle” setting on the unit
- Do not smoke, fry food, or do other things that will create indoor air pollution

If you have lung disease (including asthma) or heart disease, closely monitor your health and contact your doctor if you have symptoms that worsen.

Consider leaving the area until smoke conditions improve if you have repeated coughing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea, unusual fatigue, lightheadedness.

**For 24-hour Air Quality Advisory Information, call toll-free at
1-866-BURN-DAY (1-866-287-6329).**

**For further information, visit the District's website at
www.ncuaqmd.org**

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