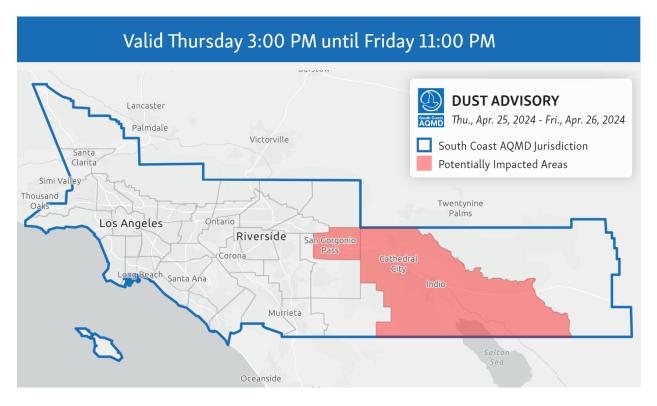


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 25, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Connie Villanueva (909) 396-2409, Cell: (909) 215-5601 press@aqmd.gov

Windblown Dust Advisory Updated: Portions of Riverside County could see Hazardous Air Quality Levels

Valid Thursday 3:00 PM until Friday 11:00 PM



South Coast AQMD has updated the advisory issued on Tuesday.

Wind gusts up to about 60 mph since Tuesday morning have caused windblown particle pollution (PM10), resulting in PM10 levels that were Hazardous at times in the Coachella Valley.

The highest PM10 levels occurred Wednesday evening through Thursday morning.

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the South Coast AQMD app or visit www.aqmd.gov/AQImap.

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Gusty winds are expected to continue to cause periods of elevated particle pollution (PM10) levels in the San Gorgonio Pass area and the Coachella Valley on Thursday through Friday night
- Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are Hazardous at times
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

Detailed Forecast

Thursday afternoon	Persistently high winds will continue to cause high PM10 levels, resulting in AQI that is Hazardous at times.
Thursday night	Winds will be strongest during evenings and nights. Blowing dust may result in AQI that is Hazardous at times.
Friday afternoon and evening	The strongest wind gusts will occur on Friday afternoon and evening, with wind gusts of 40 to 60 miles per hour at times. Blowing dust may result in AQI that is Hazardous at times.

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

If you are in an area impacted by windblown dust or ash:

- 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.
- Help minimize dust pollution by stabilizing loose soils and slowing down if driving on dirt roads.
- For more information, see the <u>EPA Guide for Particle Pollution</u> (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 <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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