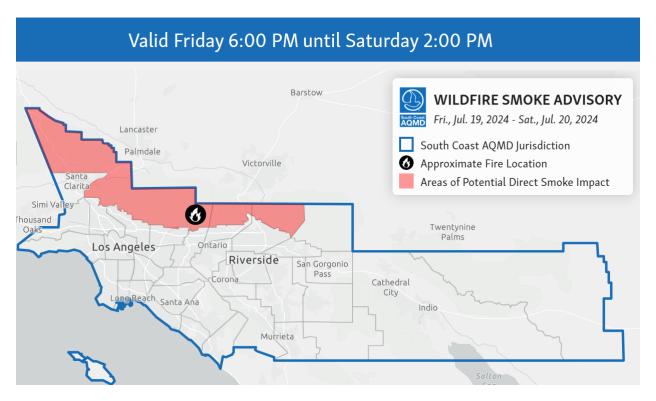


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 19, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD issues Smoke Advisory due to Fork Fire

Valid Friday 6:00 PM until Saturday 2:00 PM



Current Conditions

- The Fork Fire is burning in the San Gabriel Mountains north of Highway 210 near the Bridge to Nowhere trailhead
- As of 4:00 PM on Friday the fire has burned 250 acres and is 0% contained
- For additional information about the Fork Fire visit the <u>watch Duty Page</u>
- Based on the live camera footage, smoke from the fire is being blown north on Friday evening
- Smoke impacts will depend on fire growth and fire suppression efforts

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download <u>https://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp</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 the Fork Fire will cause elevated PM2.5 levels in parts of the San Gabriel Mountains, Mt Baldy, and Crestline
- Air Quality Index (AQI) may reach **Unhealthy** or higher in areas impacted by smoke
- Air quality may be worse in areas immediately adjacent to the fire

Detailed Forecast

Friday afternoon	Winds will push smoke from the Fork Fire to the east and northeast. AQI may reach Unhealthy or higher in areas impacted by smoke
Friday night	Smoke impacts will be more pronounced at night in areas close to the fire as smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground. AQI may reach Unhealthy or higher in areas impacted by smoke
Saturday morning	Smoke impacts will be heavily dependent on the progress of fire containment efforts. Winds will again push smoke from the Fork Fire to the east and northeast. AQI may again reach Unhealthy or higher in areas impacted by smoke

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>.