

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 23, 2024

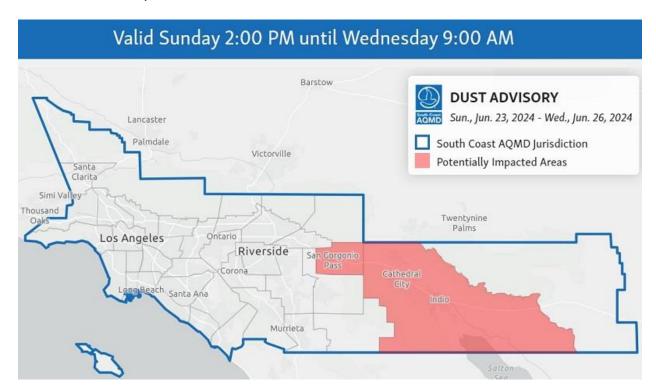
MEDIA CONTACT:

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 Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and Banning Pass Areas

Valid until Wednesday 9:00 a.m.



Current Conditions

• In the past 24 hours, AQI levels reached **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** in Indio, while Palm Springs and Mecca experienced **Moderate** air

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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- High winds can lead to windblown dust; gusts up to 30 miles per hour are expected
- Windblown dust is expected to cause Air Quality Index (AQI) values to reach Unhealthy or higher between Sunday evening and Tuesday night
- AQI levels will vary over time and by location depending on wind speed and direction
- AQI levels will likely be highest at night; air quality might be worse in the northern and central Coachella Valley than other areas
- South Coast AQMD will issue an update if poor air quality is expected to persist

Detailed Forecast

Sunday/ Monday/ Tuesday daytime	Air quality will deteriorate starting late afternoon and may reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or worse.
Sunday/ Monday/ Tuesday nights	Air quality will be worst at night and may reach Unhealthy or higher. Tuesday night winds will be stronger than Sunday and Monday, and will likely cause more dust.

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