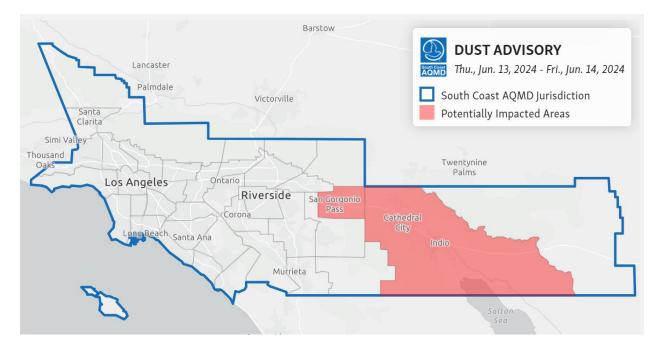


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 13, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Connie Villanueva (909) 396-2409, Cell: (909) 215-5601 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues a Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and Banning Pass Areas

Valid Thursday 2:00 PM until Friday 12:00 PM



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

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

Detailed Forecast

Thursday afternoon	AQI levels will increase and may reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups levels or higher.
Thursday night	AQI levels will be highest at night and reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups levels or higher.

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 EPA Guide for Particle Pollution (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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