

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 16, 2024

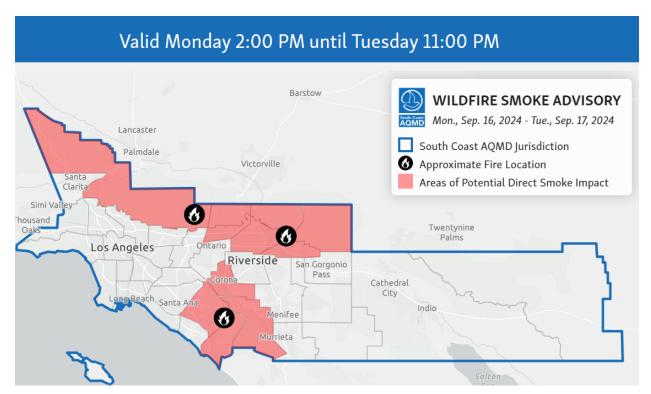
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Smoke Advisory Continues Due to Multiple Wildfires

Valid Monday 2:00 p.m. until Tuesday 11:00 p.m.



Current Conditions

 The Bridge Fire is burning in the San Gabriel Mountains between Piñon Hills, Mount Baldy, La Verne, and Crystal Lake. As of 1 PM on Monday, the fire has burned 54,690 acres and is 11% contained. For more information about the Bridge Fire visit the InciWeb webpage at

- https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/caanf-bridge-fire and the Cal Fire webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/8/bridge-fire/.
- The Line Fire is burning between Highland, Running Springs, Big Bear Lake, and Angelus Oaks. As
 of 1 PM on Monday, the fire has burned 39,026 acres and is 42% contained. For more
 information about the Line Fire, visit the CalFire incident page at
 https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2024/9/5/line-fire/ and the InciWeb webpage at
 https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cabdf-line-fire.
- The Airport Fire is burning in the Santa Ana Mountains between Rancho Santa Margarita, Lake Elsinore, and Modjeska Peak. As of 1 PM on Monday, the fire has burned 23,519 acres and is 31% contained. For more information about the Airport Fire visit the InciWeb webpage at https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cacnf-airport-fire.
- The regulatory monitor at Big Bear measured Air Quality Index (AQI) levels up to the Very
 Unhealthy category late on Sunday evening, before declining somewhat. PM2.5 measured at
 the regulatory monitors in Crestline and Indio improved from Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
 on Sunday afternoon. The monitor in Rancho Santa Margarita has recorded mostly Moderate air
 since Sunday afternoon. Other regulatory monitors have remained at Moderate or better AQI
 categories since mid-day Sunday.
- As of 1 PM on Monday, satellite imagery shows smoke from both the Bridge and Line fires
 primarily traveling to the northeast, with minimal smoke over the South Coast Air Basin. Other
 than areas adjacent to active fires, surface measurements indicate only light smoke impacts
 from the Airport Fire in nearby areas including Lake Elsinore, Corona, Murrieta, and Rancho
 Santa Margarita.
- Information about Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety is available at https://www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety.

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the <u>South Coast AQMD</u> app 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 Bridge and Line Fires is expected to most heavily impact areas near each fire including the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains, Big Bear, and Mt. Baldy.
- The Smoke Outlook for the Line and Bridge Fires from the U.S. Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program is available at https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook/e18c7d17.
- A shift in wind direction, from southwest to northwest is anticipated tonight. This will likely push smoke away from Big Bear Lake toward Angelus Oaks.
- Smoke impacts in the South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley will likely continue until fire
 activity decreases. South Coast Air Quality Management District will continue to provide daily
 smoke advisory updates until air quality impacts from smoke subside.

Detailed Forecast

| Rest of Monday | Smoke will most heavily impact areas near and to the northeast of each fire where PM2.5 levels may reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI category or higher in and near the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains including Big Bear and Mt. Baldy. |
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| Monday night to Tuesday morning | PM2.5 levels in Big Bear and Angelus Oaks are expected to reach the Unhealthy AQI category or higher. San Bernardino and Crestline are expected to reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Group s AQI category or higher. |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday | Big Bear and Mt. Baldy are expected to reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI category or higher all day Tuesday. Other areas will mostly be in the Moderate AQI category. PM2.5 levels will depend on fire activity. |

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 www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety.

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.