

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 07, 2024

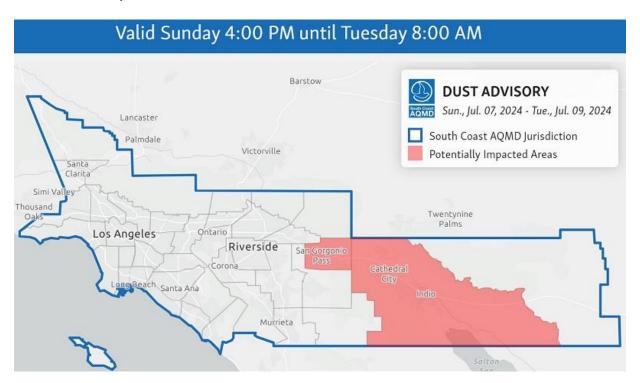
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# South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and Banning Pass Areas

Valid until Tuesday 8:00 a.m.



# **Current Conditions**

• In the past 24 hours, Air Quality Index (AQI) levels reached **Moderate** in Indio and Mecca.

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 AQI values to reach **Unhealthy** or higher between Sunday evening and Tuesday 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; air quality might be worse in the northern and central Coachella Valley than other areas
- AQI may also reach **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** levels in the afternoons and evenings due to the ongoing heatwave causing high ozone levels. See the <u>South Coast AQMD active advisories</u> <u>page</u> for more information.
- South Coast AQMD will issue an update if poor air quality is expected to persist

#### **Detailed Forecast**

Sunday and Monday daytime	Air quality will deteriorate starting Sunday evening and may reach <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> or worse. Lighter winds during the day on Monday will reduce dust levels temporarily.
Sunday and Monday nights	AQI may reach <b>Unhealthy</b> or higher. Winds on Sunday night will be stronger than 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 **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 <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, X (formerly known as Twitter) and <a href="mailto:lnstagram">lnstagram</a>.