

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2024

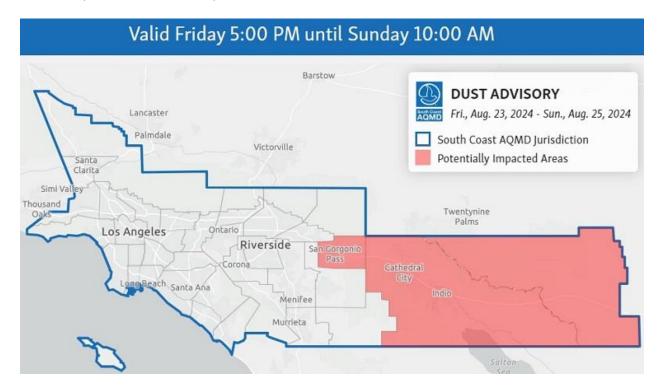
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# South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass

Valid Friday 5:00 PM until Sunday 10:00 AM



## **Current Conditions**

 Wind gusts between 14 and 28 mph were observed at Banning Airport from 3 PM Thursday through 11 AM Friday.

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 or worse in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning.
- High winds can lead to windblown dust; gusts up to 40 miles per hour are expected in San Gorgonio Pass.
- AQI levels will vary over time and by location depending on wind speed and direction.
- AQI levels will likely be highest at night.

#### **Detailed Forecast**

Friday and Saturday evenings and nights	Wind gusts and windblown dust levels are predicted to be highest during Friday and Saturday evening and night, from 5 PM each evening through 2 AM the following morning. AQI may reach <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> or higher.
Saturday and Sunday daytime	AQI is predicted to be lower during Saturday and Sunday daytime due to reduced wind speeds.

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>, <a href="mailto:X">X</a> (formerly known as Twitter) and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.