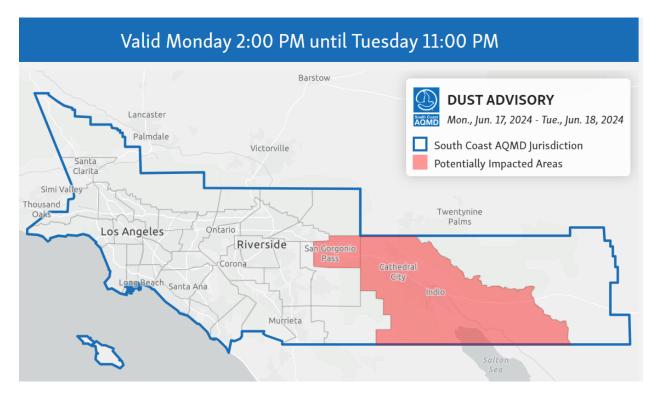


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 17, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Connie Villanueva (909) 396-2409, Cell: (909) 215-5601 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Coachella Valley

Valid Monday 2:00 PM until Tuesday 11:00 PM



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

Current Conditions

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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

• High winds can lead to windblown dust; gusts up to 40 miles per hour are expected

- Windblown dust is expected to cause Air Quality Index (AQI) values to reach **Unhealthy** or higher between Monday afternoon 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; 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

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