

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 30, 2025

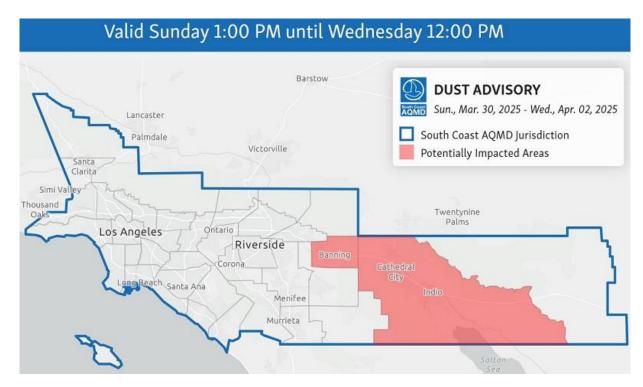
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# South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory Due to High Winds in the Coachella Valley

Valid until Wednesday 12:00 PM



#### **Current Conditions**

- As of 1 PM Sunday, wind gusts up to 61 mph were recorded in the Coachella Valley.
- Since 12 AM Friday, the Air Quality Index (AQI) increased to **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** in Mecca, and to **Hazardous** in Northern Cathedral City on account of windblown dust (PM10).

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**

- Blowing dust may result in PM10 levels in the **Very Unhealthy** or higher AQI categories in the Coachella Valley. Expect elevated PM10 levels at times through Wednesday morning, especially in the northwestern part of the valley
- Gusty winds can lift dust and soil into the air, resulting in high PM10 levels in the region
- Winds from the west and northwest with gusts up to 60 mph are predicted
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

#### **Detailed Forecast**

Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday	Wind gusts will be strong. PM10 levels are predicted to range from <b>Moderate</b> to <b>Hazardous</b> AQI categories at times throughout the Coachella Valley.
Wednesday morning	Wind speeds will drop in the early morning. AQIs are expected to range from <b>Good</b> to <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> .

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>.