

SMOKE ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WILDFIRE SMOKE CONTINUES TO IMPACT MOJAVE DESERT AIR

Smoke advisory remains in effect until further notice

The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) is advising that smoke from the Ranch2 Fire in Los Angeles County is continuing to impact large swaths of its jurisdiction. Forecasts through Friday, Aug. 21 show further significant impacts from smoke produced from several other fires burning beyond the region as well. This includes smoke from the Lightning Complex Fire burning South of San Francisco that could affect Barstow and other Mojave Desert communities today, Aug. 19, 2020.

As winds shift and affect the numerous fires burning in California, this advisory will remain in effect until further notice, especially as conditions persist for high fire danger.

Increasing levels of smoke particulate can affect everyone, but it's particularly unhealthy for those with heart and respiratory illnesses, children, seniors and active adults.

In any area impacted by smoke:

- **everyone** should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion;
- people with respiratory or heart disease, older adults, and children should **remain indoors**;
- keep windows and doors closed;
- run your air conditioner if you have one; recirculation function is ideal.
- avoid using a swamp cooler or whole-house fan to prevent bringing additional smoke inside.

The U.S. EPA's Smoke-Ready toolbox offers helpful tips to protect your health and that of those around you at <https://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/fires-and-your-health>.

MDAQMD encourages residents to check local air quality levels by visiting www.AirNow.gov or www.enviroflash.info where you can sign up for text and email alerts with Air Quality forecasts.

MDAQMD is the air pollution control authority and permitting agency for the High Desert portion of San Bernardino County and the Palo Verde Valley in Riverside County. It's governed by a board of 13 members representing nine incorporated municipalities and two counties within its boundaries. Visit mdaqmd.ca.gov or follow @MDAQMD on social media.

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MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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