



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

www.aqmd.gov

@SouthCoastAQMD    

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 3, 2024

MEDIA CONTACT:

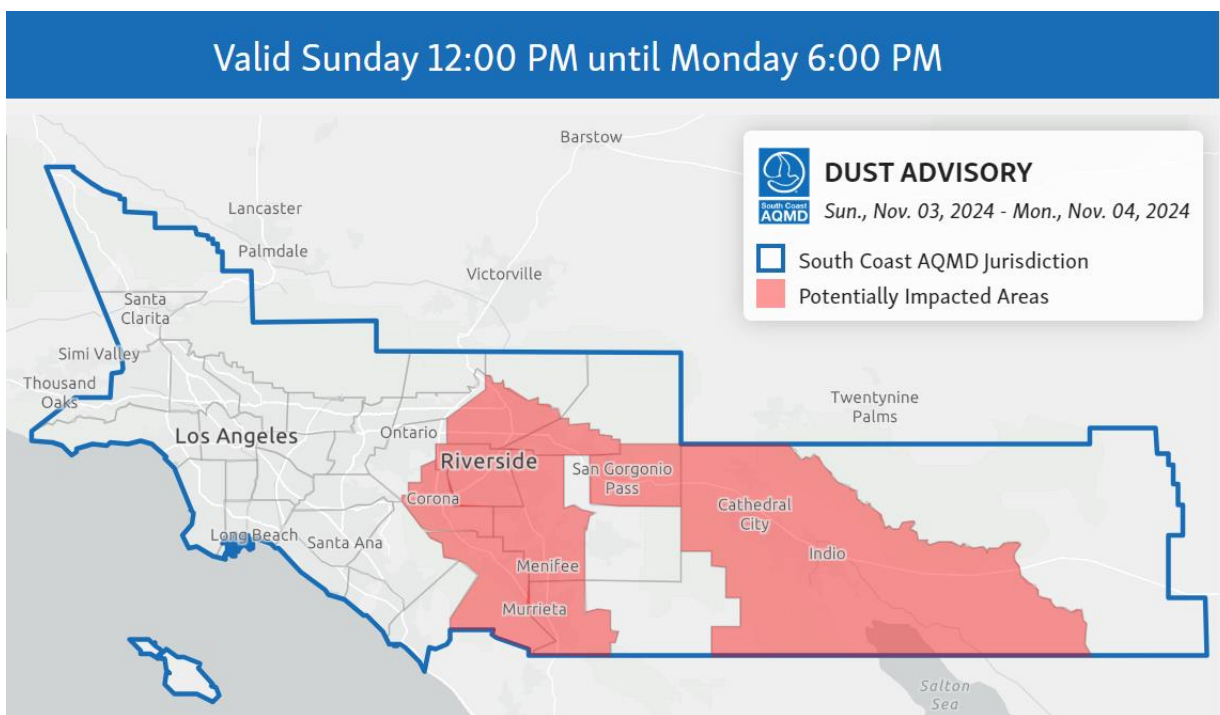
Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

Connie Villanueva, (909) 396-2409, Cell: (909) 215-5601

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory Due to High Winds in the Coachella Valley, Banning pass, and Inland Empire

Valid Sunday 12:00 PM until Monday 6:00 PM



Current Conditions

- Periods of elevated particle pollution (PM10) levels in the Coachella Valley and parts of the Inland Empire are expected starting Sunday noon and lasting until Monday evening.
- As of Sunday at noon, the National Weather service has issued Wind Advisories and Red Flag Warnings throughout the area. Visit the NWS San Diego www.weather.gov/sgx, NWS Los Angeles www.weather.gov/lox, and NWS Phoenix www.weather.gov/psr websites for more information.

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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are **Unhealthy** or worse
- High PM10 levels in the region are a result of gusty Santa Ana winds, which can lift dust and soil into the air
- The highest PM10 levels are expected in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass area
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

Detailed Forecast

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Sunday afternoon | High PM10 levels are expected to begin when gusty winds from the northeast start to affect the area. Unhealthy or worse AQI levels due to PM10 are possible in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass area and the Inland Empire. |
| Sunday evening and night | Wind speeds and PM10 levels are expected to decrease in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass after 6 PM Sunday, and AQI may decrease to Moderate levels in these areas. Wind speeds will remain high in the Inland Empire. Unhealthy or worse AQI levels due to PM10 are expected to continue in the Inland Empire. |
| Monday Morning and afternoon | Unhealthy or worse AQI levels due to PM10 are expected the Inland Empire. Wind speeds will again increase in the Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass, resulting in Unhealthy or worse AQI levels again from about 6 AM until noon Monday. |

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.
- Always wear proper personal protective equipment (long sleeve shirts, pants, gloves and safety glasses) when working around ash. A well-fitting respirator such as an N-95 may provide some protection. If you do get ash on your skin, wash it off as soon as possible.
- Do not use leaf blowers or take other actions (e.g., dry sweeping) that will put ash into the air. To clean up ash, use vacuums equipped with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters.

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 www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).