

NEW OZONE STANDARD

Recently the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) significantly strengthened its national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone, the primary component of smog. These changes will improve both public health protection and the protection of sensitive trees and plants.

The EPA revised its Air Quality Index (AQI) for ozone to reflect these changes. The AQI is EPA's color-coded tool for communicating daily air quality to the public. The AQI revisions address the ranges of ozone that are represented by the AQI categories, such as "good" (green), "moderate" (yellow), "unhealthy for sensitive groups" (orange), and "unhealthy" (red). EPA has adjusted the

upper end of the "moderate" range to be equal to the new primary 8-hour ozone standard, which is 0.075 parts per million (ppm), and has made proportional changes to the other categories.

Under the revised AQI, ozone levels above 0.075 ppm would be considered in the "unhealthy for sensitive groups" category. When ozone is in this category, EPA recommends certain groups adjust their activity levels to reduce their ozone exposure. These groups include children and adults who are active outdoors, people with asthma or other lung diseases and older adults.

The table below shows the new breakpoints with a Spare the Air day called at 150 AQI:

Category	AQI Value	1997 - 8 hrs (ppm)	2008 - 8-hr (ppm)
Good	0 - 50	0.000 - 0.064	0.000 - 0.059
Moderate	51 - 100	0.065 - 0.084	0.060 - 0.075
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 - 150	0.085 - 0.104	0.076 - 0.095
Unhealthy	151 - 200	0.105 - 0.124	0.096 - 0.115
Very Unhealthy	201 - 300	0.125 - 0.374	0.116 - 0.374
Hazardous	301 - 500	No change	No change

CALENDAR

July 9, 2008 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

July 9, 2008 9:00 AM
Public Hearing
Ag Engine Registration

August 13, 2008 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

August 20-24, 2008
Yolo County Fair
Visit our booth for air quality information.

September 10, 2008 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

September 14 - 16, 2008
The Future is Green Conference
Long Beach Convention Center
www.capcoagreen.com/

September 15 - December 31, 2008
Woodstove Changeout Program:
Receive a \$250 incentive when you changeout a non-certified woodstove or woodburning insert with a new US EPA certified wood, gas or pellet stove or insert. Incentive is only available during the specified time period.

October 8, 2008 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis



AIR AWARE

A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District - Summer 2008

REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO WILDFIRE SMOKE

With numerous wildfires experienced recently throughout the state, the District reminds residents of steps to take to reduce your exposure to smoke if you're living in an area that is affected.

The following strategies to reduce smoke exposure are provided by the U.S. EPA:

- Those with moderate to severe heart or respiratory disease might consider staying with relatives or friends who live away from the smoke during the time of the fires. If smoke is already present in substantial quantities, such individuals may want to evaluate whether evacuation might actually cause greater exposure than if they stayed in their home, using other precautions.

- All people (except firefighters or emergency personnel) in a smoky area should avoid strenuous work or exercise outdoors. They should drink plenty of fluids to keep their respiratory membranes moist. Dust masks are not recommended because they do not capture very fine particles and may make it more difficult to breathe, especially for people with

chronic lung diseases such as chronic bronchitis or emphysema.

- Avoid driving, if possible. If you do drive, run the air conditioner on the "recycle" or recirculate mode to prevent drawing smoky air into the car.

- Shutting windows and closing doors can give some protection from smoke. If the building has air conditioning, its controls should be set in the "recycle" mode, if possible, to prevent smoke-laden air from being drawn into the building.

- In anticipation of a smoke event, individuals should keep foods on hand that do not require cooking, since cooking can add to the particle burden in the air people breathe indoors. Vacuuming should also be avoided since most vacuum cleaners disperse very fine dust into the air.

- Having enough food for several days so that driving can be minimized is also a good preparatory strategy. Anyone who is on medication of any kind should also have at least a five day supply on hand.

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Everyone should avoid voluntary outdoor activities during poor air quality episodes.

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TIPS FOR SMOKE, ASH, AND DUST EVENTS

During the event, when the air is bad:

- Everyone should avoid outdoor exercise or voluntary outdoor activities.
- Stay indoors and keep indoor air clean. Keep your windows and doors closed — unless it's extremely hot outside. If you have an air conditioner, run it with the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean. Don't use fireplaces, gas logs, or candles; don't vacuum and don't smoke.
- When smoke is heavy for a prolonged period of time, fine particles can build up indoors even though you may not be able to see them. If you have heart or lung disease, are an older adult, or have children, talk with your doctor about whether and when you should leave the area.
- Be sure to call your doctor if your symptoms worsen.

After the event, when you're cleaning up ash and dust:

- Use a wet broom and small amount of water to sweep soot and ash aside or into a dustpan for disposal. Or use a vacuum cleaner that has a HEPA filter. Use a damp cloth to clean surfaces. Do not use leaf blowers or vacuum cleaners that don't have filters.
- Go to a car wash to get your car cleaned. Don't hose down your car or outside areas using large amounts of water. This wastes water and sends ash and dust particles into runoff systems and our creeks.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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WHAT'S IN SMOKE?

Smoke is composed of carbon dioxide, water vapor, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, hydrocarbons and other organics, nitrogen oxides, trace minerals and other compounds. The actual composition depends on the fuel type: different types of wood and vegetation are composed of varying amounts of cellulose, lignin, tannins and other polyphenolics, oils, fats, resins, waxes and starches, which produce different compounds when burned.

Particulate matter is the pollutant of main concern from wildfire smoke for the short-term exposures (hours to weeks). Particulate matter is a generic term for a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air. Particles from smoke, often called fine particles, tend to be less than one micron in diameter and, as a result, may be more of a health concern than the larger particles that typically make up road dust. Particulate matter from wood smoke has a size range near the wavelength of visible light (0.4–0.7 micrometers). Thus, particles efficiently scatter light and reduce visibility.

Hazardous air pollutants, such as acrolein, benzene, and formaldehyde, are present in smoke, but in much lower concentrations than particulate matter and carbon monoxide.

Health Categories and Smoke:

Good (visibility is 10 miles or more*) - *No cautionary statements.*

Moderate (5-10 miles*) - *Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.*

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (3-5 miles*) - *People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.*

Unhealthy (1½-3 miles*) - *Sensitive groups should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.*

Very Unhealthy (1-1½ mile*) - *People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.*

Hazardous (1 mile or less*) - *Everyone should avoid physical activity outdoors; sensitive groups should remain indoors and keep activity levels low.*

* Face away from the sun and look for targets at known distances. Visible range is that point at which even high contrast objects totally disappear.

POLLUTION PREVENTION IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

EPA anticipates that regulations now being developed will bring cleaner lawn and garden equipment to market within a few years. Meanwhile, consumers can make a difference by adopting practices that will help protect the environment now and in the future.

Avoid spilling gasoline.

Preventing spills and overfills is an easy and effective way for power equipment owners to prevent pollution. Even small gasoline spills evaporate and pollute the air. Use a gasoline container you can handle easily and hold securely. Pour slowly and smoothly. Use a funnel, or a spout with an automatic stop device to prevent overfilling the gas tank. Keep the cap or spout and the vent hole on gasoline containers tightly closed. Transport and store gasoline and power equipment out of direct sunlight in a cool, dry place.

Maintain your equipment.

Follow the manufacturer's guidelines. Change oil and clean or replace air filters regularly. Use the proper fuel/oil mixture in two-stroke equipment. Get periodic tune-ups, maintain sharp mower blades and keep the underside of the deck clean.

Consider cleaner options.

Ask your dealer about the new, cleaner gasoline equipment entering the marketplace. Propane and solar options are also available for some types of equipment.

Electric equipment is cleaner than equipment powered by gasoline engines. Electrically-powered lawn and garden tools produce essentially no pollution from exhaust emissions or through fuel evaporation. However, generating the power to run electric equipment does produce pollution.

Use manual tools.

Tools that don't require electric or gasoline engines are especially handy for small yards or small jobs. Easy-to-use reel push mowers do not generate emissions.

Reduce mowing time.

Use low-maintenance turf grasses or grass/flower seed mixtures that grow slowly and require less mowing. Check with the local agricultural extension service about what is appropriate for your region.

Decrease lawn area.

Plant trees and shrubs to reduce the energy costs of heating and cooling your house. Native wildflowers and plants require little to no maintenance after planting.

Recycle old equipment.

Instead of selling or giving away your old lawn and garden power tools, take them to a recycling center where they can be converted into raw material for use in cleaner equipment and other products.

By combining these strategies, you can reduce your personal contribution to pollution. In addition, your yard equipment will last longer and you will save money.

Simple Ways to Reduce Gasoline Consumption

Don't use the drive-thru if there are two or more cars in line.

Don't leave your car running when you're waiting for someone, even for a minute. Idling your engine for one minute is about the same amount of gasoline it takes to start your engine.

Don't use reverse - Try parking in a place you don't have to reverse out of and it will save a small amount of gasoline.

Drive slower - the rule of thumb is that you save about 15 percent by going 15 miles per hour slower. Go 55 mph instead of 70 and save 15 percent more fuel.

Use cruise control - steady speeds make a difference, use it when you can.

The less gasoline we use means the less we contribute to emissions that create ground level ozone.

STATS: April 1, 2008 - June 30, 2008

ATC Applications Received	110	Complaints Investigated	19
ATC Applications Processed	51	Inspections Performed	99
PTO Applications Received	41	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	100
PTO Applications Processed	30	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	145

CLEAN AIR FUNDS

The Board of Directors approved \$630,000 for 15 clean air projects at the June board meeting. Through the District's Clean Air Funds (CAF) program, grants will be distributed for the purposes of encouraging the use of clean technology, low emission vehicles, alternative transportation, transit services and public education.

The CAF program offers incentive funding for mobile sources of air pollution that are not subject to district regulation or other state or federal air pollution laws and funding is awarded on a competitive basis. The District is interested in achieving the greatest amount of emission reductions for the money awarded, maximizing cost effectiveness. The District also looks at other factors such as:

- overall project cost
- potential for broad application of the project to other jurisdictions
- matching funds provided by outside sources or the applicant
- regional benefits

Applications receiving funding in the following categories were:

Clean technology/low emission vehicles:

City of Vacaville - Alternative Fuels Vehicle Incentive Program
Solano Co. - Particulate matter (PM) retrofit of four heavy duty diesel trucks
City of Davis - Greening Our Fleet
UC Davis/Fleet Services - Electric Trucks
Yolo County - Replacement of diesel paint truck with new low emission truck

Alternative Transportation:

Solano County - Phase 3 of Vacaville-Dixon Bikeway
City of Vacaville - Ulatis Creek Bike Path
City of Rio Vista - Waterfront Multi-Use Path
Solano Transportation Authority - Safe Routes to School

Transit Services:

Yolo County Transportation District - Subsidies for Summer Sizzler, Spare the Air Day program and Youth Discount Rides:
Yolo Housing Facilities

Public Education:

Breathe California - Air Quality Assessment
City of Vacaville - City Coach public education campaign
Yolo County - Climate Protection Plan

RULES UPDATE

Solvent Rules

On May 14, 2008 the District amended the surface preparation and cleanup portion of eight District rules, and rescinded Rule 2.24 Solvent Cleaning Operations (Degreasing). The District approved a step down approach for lowering the VOC content limits for solvents used for surface preparation and cleanup. The first step will be effective July 1, 2009 and the final step will be effective January 1, 2011.

Effected rules include:

- Rule 2.25** Metal Parts and Products Coating Operations,
- Rule 2.26** Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations,
- Rule 2.29** Graphic Arts Printing Operations,
- Rule 2.30** Polyester Resin Operations,
- Rule 2.31** Surface Preparation and Clean Up,
- Rule 2.33** Adhesive Operations,
- Rule 2.35** Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Operations, and
- Rule 2.39** Wood Products Coating Operations.

The staff report and rule language are posted on the District's website.

Rule 2.26

In addition the District is proposing to amend Rule 2.26 Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations, to incorporate the California Air Resources Board proposed suggested control measures for automotive coating operations adopted on October 20, 2005.

Proposed Rule Development for Expandable Polystyrene Manufacturing

The District is currently developing a new rule that would affect facilities that manufacture products made from expandable polystyrene (EPS). This source category is the first of three categories the District committed to address in the Reasonably Available Control Technology State Implementation Plan document proposed in 2006. The District currently has one permitted source that would be subject to the rule. The proposed rule will limit volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions through performance standards for the manufacturing process.

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As a public health agency, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's role is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution.

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Board meetings are held at 9 a.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the YSAQMD office. The public is welcome to attend. For a current agenda go to www.ysaqmd.org or call (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650.

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