



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2020

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## Yolo-Solano AQMD Issues Air Quality Warning

*This Air Quality Alert is in effect through August 20, 2020 and will be renewed daily while the fires continue to burn. Yolo-Solano AQMD will issue an update as additional information becomes available.*

**(DAVIS, CA)** – The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District issued an Air Quality Alert today for the entire District, including Vacaville and Winters where fires are currently burning. The Alert was issued to notify residents of poor air quality conditions. Air quality is already unhealthy or unhealthy for sensitive groups in many areas due to smoke from the LNU Lightning Complex fires that began in Napa County on Monday.

If you see or smell smoke in the air, be cautious and use common sense to protect yourself and your family's health. Sensitive groups, including children, older adults and people with heart or lung disease, should limit the amount of time spent outdoors to reduce exposure to smoke pollutants. Everyone should avoid outdoor exercise when smoke is in the air. Please note that cloth masks are not an adequate prevention for wildfire smoke being inhaled. If you develop mild symptoms such as eye irritation or coughing, contact your doctor. Call 9-1-1 or go to an emergency department if more serious symptoms develop, e.g. chest tightness or pain.

"Wildfire smoke is especially harmful because of PM2.5 (Particulate Matter)," said the District's Air Pollution Control Officer Mat Ehrhardt. "PM2.5 is so small, about 1/30 the width of a human hair, that it can penetrate deep into the lungs."

The level of smoke may vary during the day and will depend on weather and fire conditions. Smoke tends to settle at ground level in the evenings and early mornings, which is when we see the highest concentrations of PM 2.5 in our air. This Air Quality Alert will be updated daily while fires continue to burn and smoke impacts are experienced.

The Yolo-Solano AQMD is the air pollution control authority and permitting agency for Yolo County and the northeast portion of Solano County including Vacaville, Dixon and Rio Vista. For more information on the Yolo-Solano AQMD, including signing up for air quality alerts, visit [www.ysaqmd.org](http://www.ysaqmd.org). Connect with the District on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/YoloSolanoAir](https://www.facebook.com/YoloSolanoAir) or on Twitter at: [www.twitter.com/YoloSolanoAir](https://www.twitter.com/YoloSolanoAir).

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ATTACHMENT: Air Quality Index for Particle Pollution

Color Code	AQI Value	Actions to Protect Your Health
Green	Good (0-50)	None.
Yellow	Moderate (51-100)	Unusually sensitive people should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (101-150)	Sensitive groups should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People with heart and lung disease</li> <li>Children and older adults</li> <li>People that are active outdoors</li> </ul>
Red	Unhealthy (151-200)	Sensitive groups should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.  Everyone should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.
Purple	Very Unhealthy (201-300)	Sensitive groups should avoid all physical activity outdoors.  Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.