

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Environmental Health and Safety

TO: Local District Superintendents
Local Districts

DATE: September 5, 2022

FROM: Carlos A. Torres, Director
Office of Environmental Health and Safety

**SUBJECT: EXTENDED EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 8, 2022
AND AIR QUALITY ADVISORY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7, 2022**

The National Weather Service (NWS) Excessive Heat Warning issued on August 30, 2022 has been extended through Thursday, September 8, 2022 for much of Los Angeles County, including all areas within Los Angeles Unified School District boundaries except for the areas that immediately border the coast. The NWS anticipates dangerously hot conditions to persist during the prolonged heat wave.

All District personnel must be prudent in modifying activities to avoid heat stress related illness and cognizant of injuries that may result from contact with hot surfaces such as play equipment and outdoor surfaces. [Policy Bulletin BUL-963.2 \(Guidelines for Preventing Heat Stress\)](#) and [Policy Bulletin BUL-6862.0 \(Guidelines for Preventing Thermal Contact Burns from Play Surfaces\)](#) provide guidance for all schools and offices. For specific guidance on preventing heat stroke, please see pages 2 through 7 of BUL-963.2. For specific precaution and modification guidance for classroom and physical activity, please see page 10 of BUL-963.2.

For more information related to heat illness prevention, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) provides access to additional educational and training resources at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DOSH/HeatIllnessInfo.html>.

In addition, due to the prolonged heat wave, the SCAQMD ozone advisory issued on August 29, 2022 has been extended through Wednesday, September 7, 2022. Air quality levels are likely to reach “unhealthy for sensitive groups” or higher levels throughout most of the South Coast Air Basin, including most areas within Los Angeles Unified School District boundaries, due to ground-level ozone (smog) levels. When ozone reaches unhealthy levels, people with lung disease such as asthma, older adults, children and teenagers, and people who are active outdoors should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors and schedule outdoor activities in the morning when ozone levels are lower.

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) will continue to monitor air quality and weather conditions and provide updates as necessary. Please share this information as needed. Additional information may be found in each school’s Integrated Safe School Plan. Should you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to contact my office at (213) 241-3199.

Attachment

c: Members, Board of Education

Alberto M. Carvalho

Megan K. Reilly

Pedro Salcido

Principals

Devora Navera Reed

Michael McLean

Alfonzo C. Webb

Alison Yoshimoto Towery

Steven Zipperman

Maryhelen Torres

Shannon Haber

Mark Hovatter

India Griffin

Davi Hart

Debe Loxton

Paulina Rock

Pia Escudero

Antonio Plascencia Jr

Dean Tagawa

Joseph Stark

Trenton Cornelius

Jose Cole-Gutierrez



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

OZONE ADVISORY – DUE TO HEAT WAVE

Valid Friday September 02, 2022 through Wednesday September 07, 2022

This advisory is in effect through Wednesday evening. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

The National Weather Service has issued Heat Advisories and Excessive Heat Warnings across the region, increasing the likelihood of poor air quality in many areas. This heat wave is expected to last well into the next work week. See <https://www.weather.gov/SGX> and <https://www.weather.gov/LOX> for more information on this potentially record-breaking heat wave.

South Coast AQMD initially issued an ozone advisory on Monday August 29 and is now extending it through Wednesday September 7.

Levels of ground-level ozone (smog) – the predominant summertime pollutant – are likely to reach **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** and **Unhealthy** Air Quality Index (AQI) levels or higher in inland areas of the South Coast Air Basin most afternoons. Even worse air quality is expected in the San Bernardino Mountains and San Bernardino Valley with **Very Unhealthy** AQI levels possible in the afternoon hours. This event is expected to be prolonged with poor air quality each afternoon in much of the region except by the coast and in the Coachella Valley, where favorable winds will make ozone less of a concern.

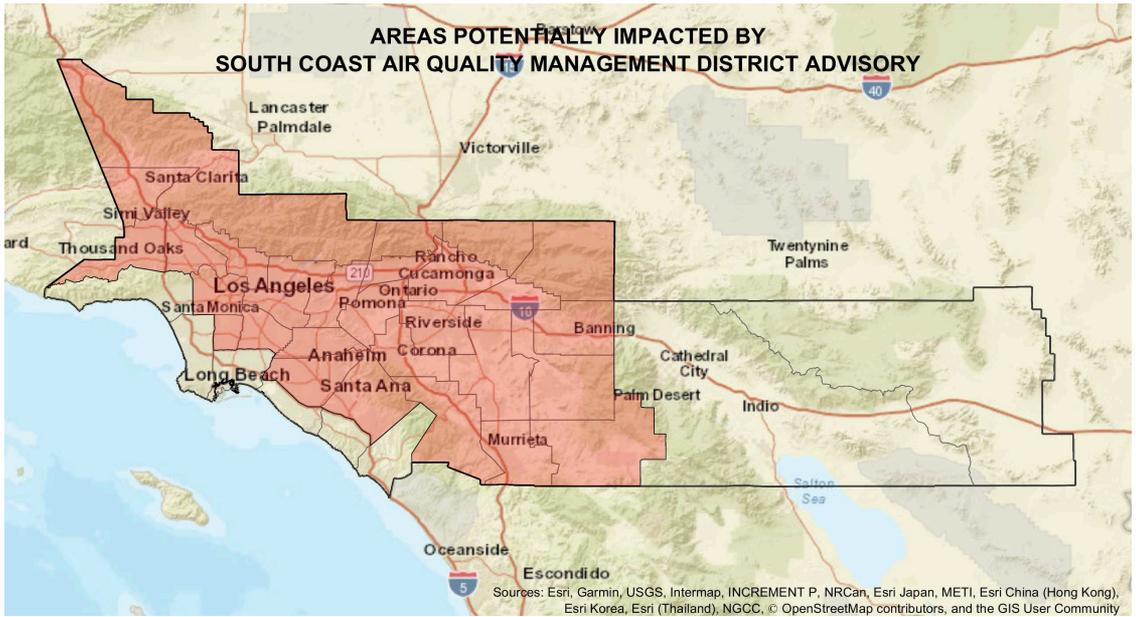
Elevated temperatures increase emissions of chemicals leading to ozone formation and enhance ozone formation rates. This long duration and intense heat wave will likely cause unusually high and persistent levels of ozone pollution.

Ozone air pollution can cause respiratory health problems, including trouble breathing, asthma attacks, and lung damage. Research also indicates that ozone exposure can increase the risk of premature death. Children, older adults, and people with asthma or COPD may be more sensitive to the health effects of ozone.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

- **Los Angeles County:** Central Los Angeles (Area 1), Southeast LA County (Area 5), West San Fernando Valley (Area 6), East San Fernando Valley (Area 7), West San Gabriel Valley (Area 8), East San Gabriel Valley (Area 9), Pomona-Walnut Valley (Area 10), South San Gabriel Valley (Area 11), South Central Los Angeles County (Area 12), Santa Clarita Valley (Area 13), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)
- **Orange County:** Northern Orange County (Area 16), Central Orange County (Area 17), Saddleback Valley (Area 19)
- **Riverside County:** Corona-Norco (Area 22), Metropolitan Riverside County (Area 23), Perris Valley (Area 24), Lake Elsinore (Area 25), Temecula Valley (Area 26), Anza Valley (Area 27), Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28), San Geronio Pass (Area 29)
- **San Bernardino County:** Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), East San Bernardino Valley (Area 35), West

San Bernardino Mountains (Area 36), Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37), East San Bernardino Mountains (Area 38)



South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory>

To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to <http://AirAlerts.org>

To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap>

For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp>

Hourly air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>. Check the hourly air quality forecast and the "Cleanest Time of Day" to help plan outdoor activities when the air quality is better.

For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>

What To Do When Air Pollution Reaches Unhealthy Levels:

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups: Air Quality Index (AQI) is 101 - 150. Although the general public is not likely to be affected at this AQI range, people with heart or lung disease, older adults and children are at a greater risk from exposure to air pollution. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Unhealthy: AQI is 151 - 200. Everyone may begin to experience some adverse health effects, and members of the sensitive groups may experience more serious effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Very Unhealthy: AQI is 201 - 300. Everyone may experience more serious health effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.