

# Air Quality Emergency Operations Plan

The following table presents numeric criteria, which will be used as an indicator of potential impacts to public health from air pollution. Air quality is measured continuously by Air Quality Professionals. PM10 and/or PM2.5 values are recorded hourly in metrics of - micrograms/per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{M}^3$ ). Hourly values are used to determine health protection action and stage of alert.

Air Quality Condition	PM 10	PM 2.5	Potential health effects	Health Protection Action	Visibility	Stage Alert
Good	0-49	0-36	None	None	$\geq 10$ miles	None
Moderate	50-149	37- 111	Initial signs of respiratory symptoms in sensitive people: irritation of eyes, nose throat and lungs	Sensitive groups - people with heart or lung disease, Elders, pregnant women and children should reduce prolonged or intense outdoor activity.	10-5 mi	Stage 1 4-24 hours
Unhealthy for sensitive people	150-249	112 - 186	Obvious aggravation of respiratory symptoms in sensitive people Initial signs of respiratory symptoms in the general public irritation of eyes, nose throat and lungs	Sensitive people should limit vigorous outdoor activity to 4-6 hours a day. General public should reduce intense outdoor activity if feeling sensitive	5-2.5 mi	Stage 2 8 hours
Unhealthy	250-349	187 - 262	Increased aggravation of respiratory symptoms in sensitive people; increased respiratory symptoms in *general public	Sensitive people should seek clean-air shelter or remain indoors as much as possible; general public should reduce prolonged outdoor activities to 4-6 hours	2.5-1.0 mi	Stage 3 8 hours
Very Unhealthy	350-449	263 - 337	Breathing difficult for sensitive people; Cumulative aggravation of respiratory symptoms in the general public.	All sensitive groups should seek clean-air shelter and remain indoors; General public should remain indoors as much as possible and limit prolonged outdoor activity	1.0-0.25 mi	Stage 4 4 hours
Hazardous	450 or >	338 or >	Sensitive people at risk of serious respiratory impairment; Respiratory symptoms highly aggravated in General public, making breathing difficult.	Everyone should avoid all physical activity outdoors; clean-air shelter recommended for general public; Clean-air shelter OR temporary relocation recommended for pregnant women, infants, small children, elders and those suffering respiratory impairment	< 0.25 mile	Stage 5 4 hours

\*Sensitive people/groups: People with chronic lung or heart disease, asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, angina, congestive impairment; elderly, pregnant woman, infants and young children under 10 years old.

\*General public: Generally, healthy people between the ages of 11-59 years that do not fit the above description. People can vary significantly in response and sensitivity to air pollutants.