

# RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS DURING WILDFIRE SMOKE AND UNHEALTHY AIR QUALITY EVENTS



## PUBLIC AGENCIES

### HOW TO USE THIS CHART

#### STEP 1

Find the current local air quality conditions (AQI) at [fire.airnow.gov](http://fire.airnow.gov). To find forecasted air quality conditions go to [AirQuality.org](http://AirQuality.org).

#### STEP 2

Once you know the AQI nearest your location, use the table below to help you plan and make decisions during a wildfire smoke event. Please note, **BOLDED TEXT** denotes regulatory requirements; all other items are recommended actions. Refer to regulations for complete information.

ACTIVITY	LEVEL 1 GOOD	LEVEL 2 MODERATE	LEVEL 3 UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS	LEVEL 4 UNHEALTHY	LEVEL 5 VERY UNHEALTHY	LEVEL 6 HAZARDOUS
AQI	0-50	51-100	101-150	151-200	201-300	≥301
<b>LANDSCAPING ACTIVITIES</b>	No additional recommended actions	No additional recommended actions	Limit leaf blower use (check local ordinances for use restrictions <sup>1</sup> )  Limit landscaping activities	Prohibit leaf blower use (check local ordinances for use restrictions <sup>1</sup> )  Discontinue all landscaping activities until AQI returns to Level 3 or less	Prohibit leaf blower use (check local ordinances for use restrictions <sup>1</sup> )  Discontinue all landscaping activities until AQI returns to Level 3 or less	Prohibit leaf blower use (check local ordinances for use restrictions <sup>1</sup> )  Discontinue all landscaping activities until AQI returns to Level 3 or less
<b>ACTIVITIES THAT CREATE DUST EMISSIONS</b>	Prevent dust per Air District Rule 403	Prevent dust per Air District Rule 403	Prevent dust per Air District Rule 403	Prevent dust per Air District Rule 403	Discontinue all activities until AQI returns to Level 4 or less; at minimum prevent dust per Air District Rule 403	Discontinue all activities until AQI returns to Level 4 or less; at minimum prevent dust per Air District Rule 403
<b>OUTDOOR WORK ACTIVITIES / EMPLOYEE SAFETY</b>	Establish wildfire communication plan <sup>2</sup>  Train employees on Cal/OSHA Wildfire Smoke Standards <sup>2</sup>	Monitor AQI forecast to help plan work activities <sup>2</sup>	Monitor AQI forecast to plan work activities and public events <sup>2</sup>  Provide air quality info to employees <sup>2</sup>  Sensitive groups should consider wearing N95 masks	Reduce employee exposure to smoke <sup>2</sup>  If exposure can't be reduced, provide N95 masks for voluntary use <sup>2</sup>  Everyone should consider wearing N95 masks	Reduce employee exposure to smoke <sup>2</sup>  If exposure can't be reduced, provide N95 masks for voluntary use <sup>2</sup>  Everyone should consider wearing N95 masks	Reduce employee exposure to smoke <sup>2</sup>  If exposure can't be reduced, provide N95 masks for voluntary use <sup>2</sup>  Require employees wear N95 masks at AQI >500 <sup>2</sup>
<b>INDOOR WORK<sup>3</sup> ACTIVITIES / EMPLOYEE SAFETY</b>	No additional recommended actions	No additional recommended actions	Monitor AQI forecast to help plan work activities and public events  Provide air quality information to employees	Check nearby AQI levels at <a href="http://fire.airnow.gov">fire.airnow.gov</a> to determine work activities and public events	Create a cleaner air workspace or consider telework for employees	Create a cleaner air workspace or consider telework for employees
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY MESSAGING/ CLEANER AIR CENTERS</b>	No additional recommended actions	Monitor air quality	Activate Wildfire Smoke Action and Public Messaging Plan (when wildfire smoke creates two consecutive days PM 2.5 >100 AQI)	Review logistics to prepare cleaner air centers for possible opening  Consider issuing public health advisory/messages  Consider canceling outdoor public events	Publicize availability of cleaner air centers (if open)  Discuss school closure potential, public health alert and event cancellation	Publicize availability of cleaner air centers (if open), public health alerts and any event cancellations

<sup>1</sup> City of Sacramento Code section 8.70; review ordinance for full requirements.

<sup>2</sup> Cal/OSHA Regulation to protect employees from smoke during wildfire events (5141.1 Protection from Wildfire Smoke); review regulation for full requirements. During certain health crises, N95 masks may be in short supply and/or reserved for healthcare personnel; follow state and local guidance on allowed alternatives for respiratory protective equipment.

<sup>3</sup> Information on indoor air quality can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/wildfires-and-indoor-air-quality-iaq>