



Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

News Release

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DEQ extends air quality advisory due to stagnation

Statewide, Ore.—The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Lane Regional Air Protection Agency and Southwest Clean Air Agency are extending the air quality advisory for much of Oregon and southwest Washington due to stagnant air conditions trapping smoke and other air contaminants near the ground where people breathe. The advisory was initially issued on Monday, Nov. 4.

DEQ expects the air quality advisory to last until at least Tuesday, Nov. 12.

Check current air quality conditions and advisories on DEQ's website or by downloading the OregonAIR app on a smartphone.

Several county health and local air agencies have issued local wood burning restrictions limiting the use of wood stoves, fireplaces and outdoor burning. There are often exceptions for those who use wood exclusively to heat their homes and those with limited income. Check with your local health or air agency for current restrictions.

People can take the following precautions to protect their health:

- Follow local burn restrictions to prevent deteriorating air quality.
- Avoid strenuous outdoor activity in smoky conditions.
- Those with heart or lung problems, as well as young children, are especially vulnerable. These people should stay indoors while smoke levels are high.
- Use certified HEPA filters in indoor heating and ventilation systems. HEPA stands for High Efficiency Particulate Air filters.
- Avoid wood-burning stoves and use other sources of indoor heat if possible.

DEQ's color-coded Air Quality Index provides current air quality conditions and ranks them as follows: Green is good. Yellow is moderate. Orange is unhealthy for sensitive groups, such as children, seniors, pregnant women and those with respiratory conditions. Red is unhealthy for everyone. Purple is very unhealthy for all groups. Maroon is hazardous.

Resources:

- **Check** current conditions and advisories on DEQ's Air Quality Index at <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map> or by downloading the OregonAIR on your app on your smartphone.
- **Learn** more about the Air Quality Index: <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/text/368>

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