



**Mendocino County
Air Quality Management District**

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PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY For Mendocino County

UPDATE

Tuesday, September 2, 2014 through Friday, September 5, 2014

Current weather patterns have brought smoke to the area from fires in the Northern part of the state. The Happy Camp Complex fire in the Klamath National Forest is currently 66,335 acres in size and 15% contained. Smoke is predicted to travel both west and southward, impacting Mendocino County to various degrees, most noticeably in the late evening to early morning hours.

Currently, smoke concentrations are averaging in the "Moderate" AQI range. Lower elevation valley and drainage areas could experience episodes of 'Unhealthy For Sensitive Groups' air quality at times. Smoke may continue to contribute to poor air quality until the weather brings a cooler and wetter system through the northern part of the state.

Concentrations of smoke will vary greatly depending on location, wind direction, and distance from the fire. Smoke in heavy concentrations can cause eye and throat irritation, coughing, and difficulty breathing. People who are at greatest risk of experiencing symptoms due to smoke include: those with respiratory disease (such as asthma), those with heart disease, young children, and older adults. These sensitive populations should stay indoors and avoid prolonged activity. All others should limit prolonged or heavy activity and time spent outdoors. Even healthy adults can be affected by smoke.

Persons experiencing any of the following symptoms should contact a health care provider:
Headache; Repeated Coughing; Chest Tightness or Pain; Difficulty Breathing; or Nausea.

Information regarding the most current air quality readings and related information can be found on the District web site at www.mendoair.org.