

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 25, 2019 **CONTACT:** Aaron Richardson, 415.760.0242

Air District issues Spare the Air Alert for Monday

Rising temperatures and vehicle exhaust to create smoggy conditions

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the twelfth Spare the Air Alert for smog for Monday, August 26, 2019.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **tomorrow**, **Monday**, **August 26**. A high-pressure system is moving into the Bay Area, causing light winds and higher temperatures. In combination with motor vehicle exhaust, these conditions will lead to elevated concentrations of ozone, or smog.

"As hotter weather becomes the new normal, it's critical that we end our dependency on solo driving," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Vehicle exhaust contributes to air pollution and climate change, threatening the significant improvements we've made in air quality over the past 60 years."

Spare the Air Alerts are issued when ozone pollution is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. Ozone can cause throat irritation, congestion, chest pain, trigger asthma, inflame the lining of the lungs and worsen bronchitis and emphysema. Long-term exposure to ozone can reduce lung function. Ozone pollution is particularly harmful for young children, seniors and those with respiratory and heart conditions. When a Spare the Air Alert is issued, outdoor exercise should be done only in the early morning hours when ozone concentrations are lower.

Find out more about what the Air District is doing to address climate change in the nine-county Bay Area. Spare the Air — Cool the Climate is a blueprint for tackling regional air pollution and climate pollutants while improving the health of Bay Area residents for the next several decades. Check out this video about our bold vision to combat climate change at https://youtu.be/p9Bxhlrlqrl.

To find out when a Spare the Air Alert is in effect, residents can register for email AirAlerts at www.sparetheair.org, call 1(800) HELP-AIR, download the Spare the Air App or connect with Spare the Air on Facebook or Twitter.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

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