

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 23, 2019 **CONTACT:** Aaron Richardson. 415.749.4900

Air District issues Spare the Air Alert for Tuesday

Vehicle exhaust and hot weather to create smoggy conditions

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the sixteenth Spare the Air Alert for smog for Tuesday, September 24, 2019.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **tomorrow**, **Tuesday**, **September 24**. A low-pressure system to the south of the Bay Area is combining with a high-pressure system in the Pacific Northwest to create offshore winds and high temperatures in the region. In combination with motor vehicle exhaust, these conditions are expected to lead to elevated concentrations of ozone, or smog.

"This latest hot spell should alert us to the continuing need to find alternatives to driving alone," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Tailpipe exhaust is the main source of smog, so taking transit or carpooling to work can make a big difference in our regional air quality."

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>.

###

Air District Communications Office 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 - (415) 749-4900 Air District Homepage | News Releases