

NEWS RELEASE

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Air District issues a Spare the Air Alert for Sunday

Short hot spell will result in poor air quality

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the eighteenth Spare the Air Alert for smog for Sunday, October 6.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **tomorrow**, **Sunday**, **October 6**. A high-pressure system is moving into the region, causing light winds and higher temperatures. In combination with motor vehicle exhaust, these conditions will lead to elevated concentrations of ozone, or smog.

"Vehicle exhaust is the largest source of air pollution during periods of warm weather," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Reducing driving will improve air quality and protect the climate."

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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