

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 14, 2019 CONTACT: Sarah Zahedi, 415.749.4900

## Air District issues third straight Spare the Air Alert for Thursday

Hot temperatures and poor air quality will continue

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing the tenth Spare the Air Alert for smog for Thursday, August 15, 2019.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **again tomorrow, Thursday, August 15**. Light winds and hot temperatures, along with the daily load of motor vehicle exhaust, will continue to elevate concentrations of ozone, or smog.

"Heatwaves and hazy skies are a reminder that we need to find alternatives to driving alone to reduce harmful air pollution and traffic congestion," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "We can each make a difference in the quality of the air we breathe by simply changing how we get around."

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 <a href="https://youtu.be/p9Bxhlrlqrl">https://youtu.be/p9Bxhlrlqrl</a>.

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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