

NEWS RELEASE

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Air District extends Spare the Air Alert for smog through Wednesday

Hot temperatures expected to continue creating smoggy conditions

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending the Spare the Air Alert for smog through Wednesday, September 7.

Air quality is forecast to be unhealthy **through Wednesday**, **September 7**. High-pressure over the region will continue to produce clear skies, light winds and very hot temperatures across the Bay Area. These conditions, combined with motor vehicle exhaust, will produce unhealthy ozone levels.

"Unfortunately, there is more extreme heat and smog on the horizon for the Bay Area this week," said Sharon Landers, interim executive officer of the Air District. "With packed Bay Area roads and record heat, we should all take steps to reduce traffic congestion by choosing transit or working remotely to protect our air and public health."

Spare the Air Alerts are issued when ozone pollution is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. Ozone can cause throat irritation, congestion and chest pain. It can trigger asthma, inflame the lining of the lungs and worsen bronchitis and emphysema. Long-term exposure 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 undertaken only in the early morning hours when ozone concentrations are lower.

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>. For more information about Spare the Air, visit <u>www.sparetheair.org</u>.

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