



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 28, 2018

A JOINT AIR QUALITY ADVISORY ISSUED BY THE
BUTTE COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT and
BUTTE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

To:

Public Safety Personnel

News Media

Adjacent Air Quality Management Districts

Butte County & City Managers

Local/State Law & Fire Federal

Local Hospitals

School Officials

Sac. Valley Air Basin Coordinating Council

County Health Officer

California Air Resources Board

Environmental Protection Agency

From: W. James Wagoner, Air Pollution Control Officer
Dr. Andy Miller, MD, Health Officer

The Butte County Air Quality Management District Air Pollution Control Officer and the Butte County Public Health Officer are issuing this Air Quality Advisory to notify the public of poor air quality conditions in Butte County due to smoke from the Carr Fire in Shasta County. The amount of smoke impacting Butte County will vary throughout the day depending on wind direction, fire intensity, and temperature inversions. Air quality is expected to vary between moderate and unhealthy for sensitive groups.

The major air pollutant of concern is fine particulate matter also known as PM2.5. While all persons may experience varying degrees of symptoms, the more sensitive individuals, such as the young, the elderly, pregnant women, smokers, and those with respiratory conditions are of greatest risk for experiencing more aggravated symptoms which may include, but are not limited to coughing, watery and itchy eyes, and difficulty in breathing.

Persons experiencing questionable or severe symptoms should seek professional medical advice and treatment. The following actions are recommended as needed in areas impacted by smoke:

- Limit outdoor exertion, especially children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions;
- Keep doors and windows closed as much as possible in buildings and vehicles.
- Avoid the use of non-HEPA paper face mask filters which are not capable of filtering extra fine particulates;
- Check or replace air conditioner filters. Use the air conditioner on the recirculate setting.

Questions and requests for recommendations concerning specialized outdoor events and school activities may be directed to the Butte County Air Quality Management District at **332-9400** during regular business hours.

This notification will remain in effect while the Carr Fire remains active. Outdoor residential burning is currently prohibited by CalFire. Information will be updated and posted to the District website as available at www.bcaqmd.org.

Air Quality Index (AQI): Particle Pollution and Visibility Chart

Index Values	Levels of Health Concern	Cautionary Statements	Visibility Range in Miles
0-50	Good	None	10+ miles
51-100*	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.	5 – 10 miles
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.	3 – 5 miles
151-200	Unhealthy	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.	1.5 – 2.5 miles
201-300	Very Unhealthy	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.	1 – 1.25 miles
301-500	Hazardous	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should remain indoors and keep activity levels low. Everyone else should avoid all physical activity outdoors.	< 0.75 miles

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