



Serving Sutter and Yuba Counties

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Air Pollution Control Officer

## Air Quality Advisory for 9/14 and 9/15

The Feather River Air Quality Management District Air Pollution Control Officer is issuing this Air Quality Advisory to notify the public of poor air quality conditions in Yuba Sutter Region due to smoke impacts from Wildfires. Current readings in both on the Valley Floor and in foothills are in the range classified by US EPA as "unhealthy." These levels are expected to continue until wind conditions change or smoke generation is reduced by fire suppression activities.

The major air pollutant of concern is PM<sub>2.5</sub> however ozone may also be present. While all persons may experience varying degrees of symptoms, the more sensitive individuals, such as the young, aged and those with respiratory conditions are of greatest risk at experiencing more aggravated symptoms. At the unhealthy level everyone may begin to experience adverse health effects, which may include, but are not limited to coughing, watery and itchy eyes, and difficulty in breathing.

Particulate and ozone concentrations from the monitor in Yuba City can be viewed online at: [www.fraqmd.org](http://www.fraqmd.org). Current air quality across California can be viewed at [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov).

Individuals who see or smell smoke should take the following actions to protect their health:

- Avoid voluntary outdoor activities if you can see or smell smoke, even if you're healthy
- Children, the elderly and people with respiratory or heart conditions should be particularly careful to avoid exposure
- Stay indoors with doors and windows closed as much as possible
- Asthmatics should follow their asthma management plan
- Contact your doctor if you have symptoms of cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms you believe to be caused by smoke
- Those with heart disease should especially limit their smoke exposure since PM can cause heart attacks

The very small particles in smoke can irritate the lungs of even healthy people, but are especially dangerous for seniors, children and those with lung and heart disease. For more information on health effects of smoke please visit: <http://www.airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=smoke.index>

Disposable particulate respirators found at hardware stores can be effective at reducing exposure to smoke particles as long as they seal closely to the wearer's face. Look for respirators that have two straps and have the words "NIOSH" and either "P100" or "N95" printed on the filter material.

For additional information please visit [www.fraqmd.org](http://www.fraqmd.org) or call the District office at (530) 634-7659.