



Air Pollution Control District  
San Luis Obispo County

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SLO County Air Pollution Control District**

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### **SMOKE IMPACTING NORTHERN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY**

**SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA**, – The San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Air Pollution Control District and Health Department informs individuals that the air quality in northern San Luis Obispo County is being impacted by smoke and falling ash from the Cuesta Fire located east of Highway 101 on Cuesta Grade. Skies north of Cuesta Grade are hazy and fine particulate (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations are higher than normal due to transported smoke from the fire.

If you smell smoke or see ash fall, the County officials recommend that you take precautions to reduce the harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities. These precautions are especially important for people with respiratory and heart conditions.

Residents are encouraged to use common sense and take precautions to reduce the harmful health effects associated with smoke exposure. When it is obvious that there is smoke in the air, County officials recommend that individuals avoid strenuous outdoor activity and remain indoors as much as possible. Levels of particulates in the smoke may be high enough that the potential exists for even healthy people to be affected. If a cough, shortness of breath, wheezing, exhaustion, light-headedness or chest pain occurs, outdoor activity should be stopped and the affected person should seek medical attention. Due to changing winds and weather conditions, it is difficult to predict which areas of the county may be most affected by smoke and ash from the fire.

The County officials will continue to closely monitor smoke impacts and air quality in San Luis Obispo County. By following the air quality index (AQI) the general public can also monitor real-time air quality throughout SLO County. The AQI focuses on health effects individuals may experience within a few hours or days after breathing polluted air. The AQI is available to the public via the APCD website [www.slocleanair.org](http://www.slocleanair.org). Sign up to receive the daily air quality forecast via email by subscribing online at [www.enviroflash.info/](http://www.enviroflash.info/).

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