



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 16, 2019

## **South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to a Debris Fire in Coachella Valley**

*Valid: Wednesday, October 16, through Thursday, October 17, 2019*

This advisory is in effect through Thursday Afternoon. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A large debris fire is burning near the intersection of Avenue 66 and Martinez Road in the city of Thermal in the Coachella Valley. The burn area was last listed at 20 acres with no containment and is expected to burn for at least the next several days. Currently the fire is producing heavy smoke, which is expected to lead to elevated PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations nearby. Wind are predicted to be light and from the southeast throughout Wednesday afternoon. This will push the smoke to the northwest toward La Quinta. Winds will shift to be from the northwest during the evening and overnight through Thursday morning. This will push the smoke to the southeast toward Oasis. Another wind shift is expected around noon on Thursday, with winds from the southeast pushing smoke once again towards La Quinta. If the fire continues to generate smoke, impacts are expected to continue throughout the Coachella Valley.

Overall, meteorological conditions may bring smoke and ash into portions of the Coachella Valley. Air quality may reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke. Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

- **Riverside County:** Coachella Valley (Area 30)



***In any area impacted by smoke:*** If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD's Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: <http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips>.

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: [www.aqmd.gov/advisory](http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory)
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to [www.AirAlerts.org](http://www.AirAlerts.org)
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see [www.aqmd.gov/aqimap](http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap)
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: [www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp](http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp)
- Air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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